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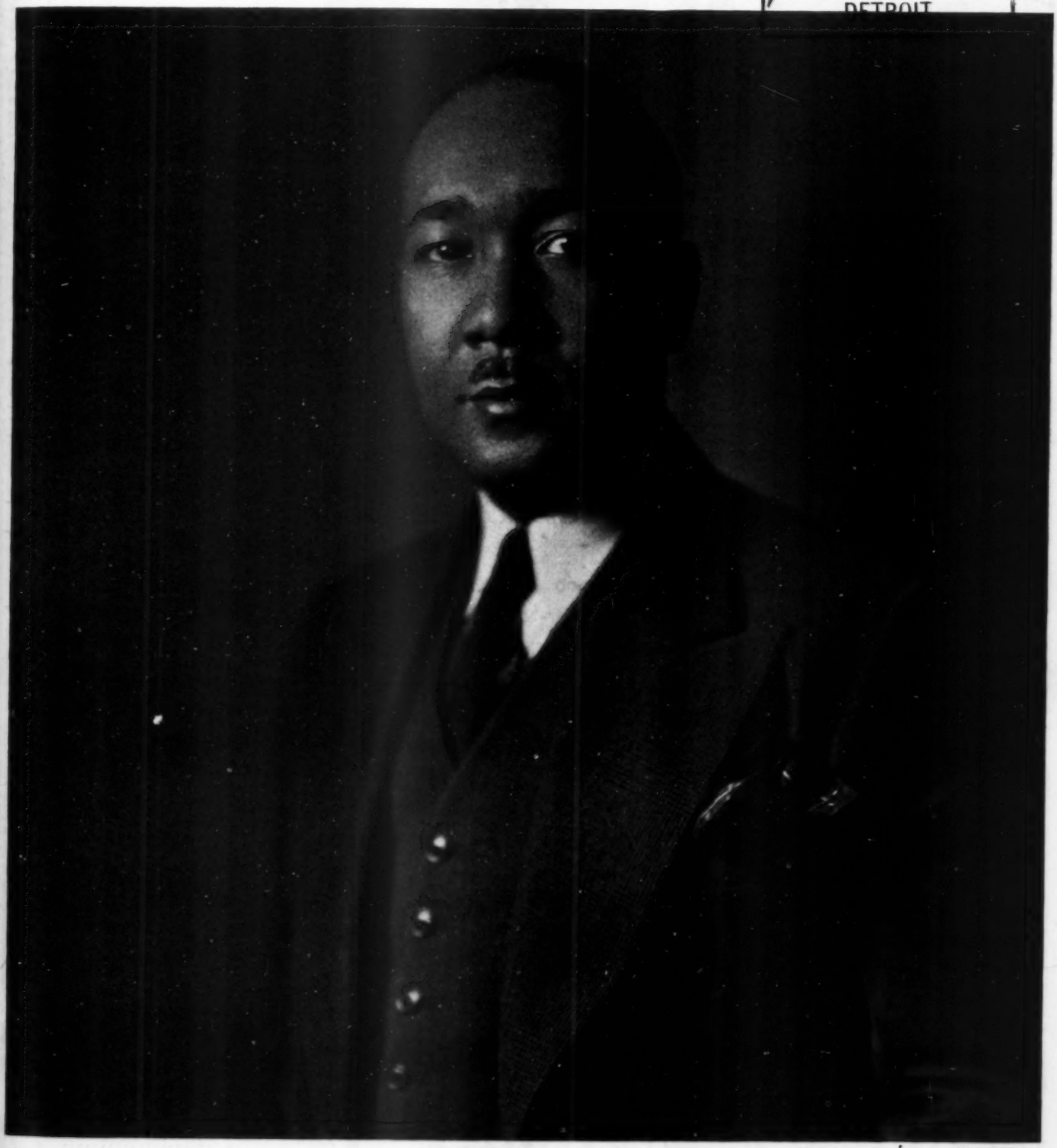

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(New Federal Judge in the Virgin Islands—See page 294)

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College and School News

Sessions of the Postgraduate course in Venereal Disease Control began at **Howard University** on September 23. The course limited to six Negro physicians ends December 22. In the past two years 42 Negro physicians have taken the course directed by Dr. H. H. Hazen, professor of Dermatology and Syphilology.

Mosher Hall, **Storer College** men's dormitory has been completely renovated, redecorated and refurnished for the new term.

Bennett College opened on September 14. Kent Hall has been completely renovated, redecorated and refurnished. The parlor of Pfeiffer Hall has also been renovated and redecorated. A new refrigeration plant has been installed in Wilbur Steele Hall and general repairs have been made in all buildings. A new concrete sidewalk has been laid on Gorrell Street along the full length of the campus and extensive landscaping has been done. Classes began September 20.

The 1938-39 budget was $152,484. The total assets are $1,452,325.

The American Baptist Theological Seminary, Nashville, Tenn., the only Baptist seminary among Negroes not connected with some other college department, began its 1939-40 term on September 25, with a bi-racial faculty. Young women are being trained in the National Baptist Training School for Missionary Workers.

President W. J. Hale of **Tennessee A. & I. State College** sat as a delegate representing American Education at the recent Congress on Education for Democracy at Teachers College, Columbia University, August 15–17.

The June issue of the *Journal of Business Education* contained a very comprehensive article on "Student Placement at Berean School" by I. Maximilian Martin, Director of the Commercial Department of **Berean School.**

The Tampa College for Negroes began its 1939 Fall term on September

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5. Since its organization in 1933, **Tampa College** has graduated 78 high school students, 103 college students, and has awarded 24 higher degrees to graduate students. Dr. James A. Butler is Dean.

Tampa College has a number of positions open to offer to qualified teachers at good salaries. The address of the college is 1312 Marion Street, Tampa, Fla.

V. V. Oak, formerly at North Carolina State College, is teaching this year at **Wilberforce University.**

Haines Institute has just begun its 54th session. The enrollment has been greatly increased.

West Virginia State College opened its 48th regular session September 18. Classes began September 21. Leaves of absence have been granted to Prof. Herman G. Canady (Psychology) for study at Northwestern University under a General Education Board fellowship, and to Prof. F. S. Belcher (English), who is continuing his studies in Dramatics another year at Yale University under a Julius Rosenwald fellowship.

New faculty members are Mrs. Gwendolyn C. Goldston (dietitian) who has taught at Howard and Shaw universities, and has degrees from Shaw and Columbia; Dr. Reid E. Jackson (Ass't in Education) who has taught at Morgan College and Wilberforce University, and has an M.A. and Ph.D. from Ohio State University; Dr. Hilda Lawson (English) who formerly taught Dramatics at **Bennett,** and has B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Miner Teachers College, Howard University and the University of Illinois respectively; and Miss Almeta V. Crockett (Home Econ.), who has taught in Missouri public schools and at Western University of Kansas City, Kan., and has B.A. and M.A. degrees from Lincoln University (Mo.) and Teachers College, Columbia University, respectively.

Campus, buildings and grounds have been renovated and improved in many ways for the new term. Some 800 pupils are enrolled.

New additions to the **Atlanta University** Library staff are Miss Virginia M. Lacy (catalogue librarian) with a B.S. degree in library science and a B.S. degree in education from Hampton Institute, and a M.S. degree in library science from the University of Illinois; and Miss Jennie Pritchard (assistant librarian), a 1938 Spelman graduate. After two years of research at Harvard

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Registration Second Semester
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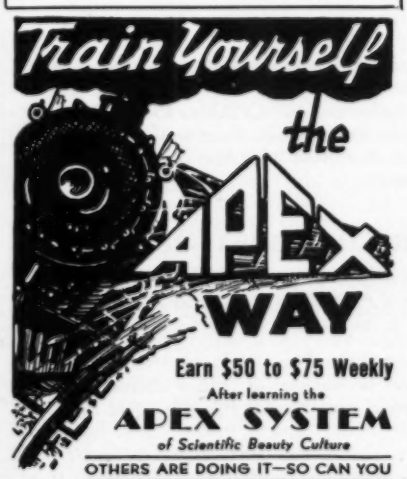

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University on a Rosenwald Fellowship, Dr. William H. Dean has returned to the faculty.

The **Atlanta University** Laboratory School began its 10th year on September 14. Mr. W. A. Robinson has been its principal since 1931.

Shaw University held commencement exercises in Greenleaf Memorial Hall on August 24, when degrees were conferred on 35 students, making a total of 90 degrees conferred this year at its summer school.

Downington Industrial School closed the sixth session of its summer camp with a banquet at which 39 boys were awarded jerseys and emblems.

Five new teachers with advanced degrees have been added to the faculty of **Wiley College:** two in economics, one in music and one professor of religion and philosophy.

Improvements costing $6,000, including a new laundry for girls, have been added this summer. The registration this year will be well over 500. with 200 freshmen.

Prof. Kelso B. Morris (Chemistry) has a year's leave of absence for study on his doctorate at Cornell University. Prof. W. B. Ford (Art) is taking a sabbatical leave to study at the University of Minnesota during 1939–40.

The annual conference of home economics teachers of Virginia, with an enrollment of 50 teachers, was held in late August at **Virginia State College.**

Livingstone College closed its 12-week summer school in mid August. The last week in July it was host to the Ministers' Institute and Leadership Training School, under direction of Bishop L. W. Kyles, with a registration of 175.

Eight courses in nursery school education have been added to the curriculum at **Dillard University.** An appointment office has been set up available to graduates and prospective employers. Johnny Logan, '40, of High Point, N. C., has been chosen president of the Dillard University Student Council for 1939–40.

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Willis J. King, President
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To the Unknown Soldier

By HERBERT ELI DICKSON

If you're a hero—then
May one I never be!
To slaughter Christian men
Who nothing did to me,
  Is not a deed of which I should be proud
  Or sing about or wear an honored shroud!

You're just a monument
To evil and despair;
It isn't God's intent
You should be sleeping there:
  A symbol of the love for wars and wrongs,
  A box of bones to which no praise belongs!

What foolish thoughts are his—
The shallow thinking one,
Who feels that great it is
To walk with bloody gun!
  O would the glaciers of truth I crave
  Destroy the inspiration of your grave!

Selassie

By VIOLET G. HAYWOOD

He walked into a garden, too,
Ere came the fateful day.
He went alone as long ago
Another went, to pray.

Mayhap his chosen comrades, too,
Let heavy eyelids fall
And slept, ashamed, as those men sleep
Who fail an urgent call.

Perhaps he smiled a bitter smile
And said in his heart too
"Could you not watch one hour with me?"
(So small a thing to do!)

I wonder as he stood alone
This wounded lion at bay
His bleeding heart at Jesus' feet
What did his tired lips say?

Ah! when he prayed in agony
'Gainst what he knew must be
Did he, in those same words, "Thy will" . . . .
Accept Gethsemane?

THE CRISIS

Founded 1910

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

A Record of the Darker Races

Published by THE CRISIS PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC.

DR. LOUIS T. WRIGHT, *President* WALTER WHITE, *Secretary*

MRS. LILLIAN A. ALEXANDER, *Treasurer*

Volume 46, No. 10 *Whole No. 346*

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THE CRISIS *was founded in 1910. It is published monthly at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y., by Crisis Publishing Company, Inc., and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The subscription price is $1.50 a year or 15c a copy. Foreign subscriptions $1.75. The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscriber may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage, and while* THE CRISIS *uses every care it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November 2, 1910, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879, and additional second class entry at Albany, N. Y.*

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THE COVER

Appointed by President Roosevelt and confirmed by the U. S. Senate, Herman E. Moore of Chicago, Ill., took the oath of office on August 10, 1939, as United States District Judge of the Virgin Islands, and sailed on September 14, 1939, to take his post.

An A.B. from Howard in 1914, and an LL.M. from Boston University Law School in 1919, Judge Moore was an attorney for the Boston Elevated Railroad from 1919 until he took up private practice in Chicago in 1921. He was president of the Cook County Bar Association for two terms, 1930 and 1931, and a director of the Chicago Branch of the N.A.A.C.P. from 1930 to 1934. Since 1934 he served as Assistant Commissioner of the Illinois Commerce Commission. During this period he was in charge and heard all cases involving public utility transportation in Chicago, including the universal transfer system and the division of revenue, between the transportation companies of the metropolis.

NEXT MONTH

Elizabeth S. Cousins has written an extremely interesting historical article on "First Negro New Yorkers" which will appear in the October number. G. James Fleming, editor of the Kappa Alpha Psi Journal, contributes an equally informative piece on Raymond Pace Alexander, well-known Philadelphia attorney.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Dr. David W. Anthony is president of the New Jersey Conference of N.A.A.C.P. branches and also president of the Princeton, N. J., branch.

•

George Padmore is author of "How Britain Rules Africa" and "Africa and World Peace." He lives in London.

•

Ira DeA. Reid is Professor of Sociology at Atlanta University.

•

Randolph Edmonds is head of the department of drama at Dillard University, New Orleans, La.

•

Dr. L. D. Reddick is Curator of the Schomburg Collection of Negro History and Literature, New York Public Library.

•

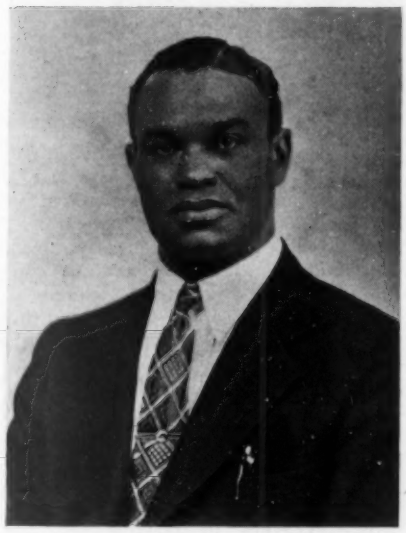
J. W. Haywood, Jr., is teacher of Latin in the Booker T. Washington High School, Baltimore, Md.

The Cranbury Terror Case

By Dr. David W. Anthony

TIMES SQUARE in New York City is not only one of the busiest crossroads in the World, but it is one based on most modern thought and ideas. Yet, if one motors from Times Square through the Holland tunnel into New Jersey and proceeds in a southwesterly direction along State Highway No. 25 for just *fifty* miles, one comes to another type of crossroad —a community where some of its citizens are yet motivated by ideas and actions not uncommon to those of the Dark Ages. This latter crossroad is Cranbury, New Jersey, a small country town with a population of about 1200. Like most rural communities Cranbury's chief thoroughfare is Main Street, with the principle homes and business places located on either side. There are only two other streets which run parallel to it; one of these is Maplewood Avenue, one block away, where most of the colored citizens of Cranbury reside. Main Street, which was Cranbury's portion of State Highway No. 25 before a by-pass was constructed to divert traffic around the town, is about ten blocks long. At the southern end of the town Main Street divides into two roads—the road to the left proceeds to Hightstown, while the road to the right, called the Old Trenton Road, takes one in a roundabout way to Trenton, the capital of the state, 15 miles away.

About two miles from this fork of Main Street on the Old Trenton road is a large farm operated by Raymond Dey. (I mention the Dey farm particularly because it plays an important part in the story that I am about to relate.) Most of the farmers in this section of New Jersey devote much of their time to the raising of white or "Irish" potatoes, and Dey is no exception. Employed to pick the potato crop on the Dey farm this season (1939) were ten colored men and one colored woman. All but one of these workers came from the deep South. Four of these farm hands lived in the loft of a barn not more than fifty feet behind the large Dey farmhouse, while the other seven, including the woman, were housed in a small frame shanty a quarter of a mile from the Dey residence. This shanty stood at the edge of one of Dey's fields, beside a small brook and about 50 feet from the Old Trenton Road. This shack is 25 feet long, 15 feet wide and 10 feet high. At its far end is a small room formed by a wooden partition that does not entirely reach to the roof. Rough coarse boards constitute the uneven floor, and the under surface of the shingled roof is the ceiling. Five half-sized panes of glass serve as windows, while a light wooden door at the near end gives the only means of entrance. In one corner of the cabin is a coal stove, and a few feet from it a small square topped table upon which are a few dishes, kitchen utensils and some food. Heavy wooden frames upon which mattresses are placed serve as beds, and chairs are provided by means of solid blocks of wood and inverted vegetable baskets. Living in this shanty were: Jake Preston, 23 years of age, and his wife Frances, 23, of Coleman, Ga.; Ode Street, 24, and Louis Streeter, 18, both of Augusta, Ga.; Monroe Holmes, 24, of Philadelphia, Pa.; James Jordan, 22, of Quincy, Fla.; and Willie Moten, 41, of Greensboro, Ala. The Prestons occupied the small room at the far end of the shack.



DR. DAVID W. ANTHONY
President
New Jersey N.A.A.C.P. Branches

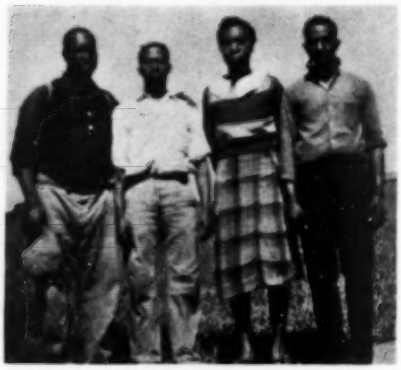
Mob Attacks

On Friday night, August 11, 1939, the seven above named workers lay their weary bodies down on their respective bunks, as usual, to seek their much needed rest. Although the night was hot Holmes closed the shanty door and bolted it from the inside. Routinely he lowered all the windows and "wedged them down" as was his habit each evening. Sufficient fresh air came into the hut through the many cracks in the weather boarding and through the spaces at the eaves of the roof. As the time wore on peaceful slumber descended upon the tired workers and one by one they quickly dropped off to sleep. A little later, save for the heavy breathing of some of the sleepers, all was quiet. Shortly before midnight Moten awoke suddenly. This was unusual for he was a very heavy sleeper. Had he been dreaming, was his imagination getting the better of him, or had he actually heard the strange sounds he thought he had? He did not know. He lay perfectly quiet and listened intently. A dry twig snapped suddenly in the still of the night, which caused the perspiration to appear on his forehead. Soon he realized only too well that something, man or beast, was outside the shanty. In spite of the heavy breathing of the sleepers within, he caught the unmistakable sounds of muffled footsteps without. He raised his head slowly and just in time to see a couple of shadows glide by the outside of one of the windows. His straining ears then caught the certain sounds of whispered voices. He wondered just what he should do. He did not have long to wonder for at that moment there was a terrible banging on the cabin's door. Moten sprang from his bunk to arouse the other sleepers. The banging on the door ceased as suddenly as it had begun. All was quiet once more. Then followed the sound of falling glass as the muzzle of a gun was rammed through one of the closed windows shattering the panes to bits. Another tremendous pounding on the door broke the bolt loose from its fastenings and sent the door flying inwards on its rusty hinges.

Workers Kidnapped

Several men, roughly dressed and with handkerchiefs over the lower parts of their faces, crowded into the shanty, many carrying flashlights. Shining the bright beams of light into the eyes of the half-wakened and frightened Ne-

groes the masked men ordered Holmes, Moten, Streeter, Jordan and Street to stand on one side of the shack with their hands high above their heads. The five obeyed. Angrily threatening the five farm hands if they made any outcry the mobsters began a search of the shanty, probably looking for weapons or money, as the workers had been paid that day. Mattresses were overturned and thrown from the bunks, and the suitcases of the Negroes were ripped open and their contents strewn about the floor. Finding nothing in their search the "nightraiders" were about to order the five workers from the shack when another masked man found Preston and his wife, Frances, in the small room in the rear. Forcing the latter to raise their hands above their heads they were compelled to join the line where the other five Negroes stood. After a few minutes to complete their search the seven colored persons were ordered to leave the shanty. This they did unhesitatingly knowing full well that resistance was impossible. With their hands above their heads the Negroes stepped from the cabin out into the night. It was not "pitch dark" for the mysterious lights of the aurora borealis were on display far up in the northern sky and the stars were shining brightly. From the shanty the mobsters made the seven farm hands cross the Old Trenton Road, climb a slight bank on its farthest side and proceed to a clump of tall bushes not more than forty feet away. While crossing the road all of the Negroes counted four automobiles parked along the highway, and while none were able to obtain the license numbers of the cars all admitted the cars bore New Jersey license plates. When the tall bushes were reached the colored workers were told to lower their hands, remove all their night clothes and kneel with their hands behind their backs. Their wrists were then bound tightly with adhesive tape. When Preston protested to the indecent exposure of his wife he was called vile names and threatened with bodily harm if he didn't "keep his mouth shut." As he continued to protest he was told he would be beaten with a piece of rubber hose carried by one of the masked men. Preston still protested to the treatment of his wife and it was only through her pleadings with him to behave that he finally desisted.



Four of the victims. L. to r.: Moten, Jordan, Mrs. Preston and Holmes

Warned to Leave

The mobsters had just completed binding the hands of the Negroes behind their backs when an automobile appeared in the distance coming down the Old Trenton road. Seeing the approaching car the masked men forced the colored workers to lie flat on the ground until the car had disappeared. The mobsters then held a short consultation after which they ordered all the Negroes, except Preston and his wife, to stand up. Streeter, Holmes, Street, Jordan and Moten complied, and as they stood there they were told to "git on back South, you're not wanted up here." The five colored men, with their hands still bound behind them, fled through the bushes as fast as they could go under their handicaps. As they disappeared into the undergrowth one of the mobsters fired a gun at the fleeing quintet, but fortunately all escaped injury.

Very soon after vanishing in the bushes Moten, a powerful two-hundred-pound man, succeeded in tearing the bonds from around his wrists. With free use of his hands he signaled the other four to lie flat on the ground so he could remove the strips of tape without the fear of being seen. All obeyed at once and were soon freed. They wondered then what they should do. They decided to remain where they were for a while to await developments. All apparently forgot their own plight and danger to worry about the safety of the Prestons, who were yet at the mercy of the masked band. Not long after their hands were freed the five farm workers heard doors of the parked automobiles slam shut, their motors start up and the cars disappear in the direction opposite to that in which the cars had been parked. This would take the automobiles back past the Dey farmhouse in the general direction of Cranbury.

The Shanty from which victims were taken

Return to Shanty

Waiting still longer in their hiding place, to make sure that none of the mobsters had been left behind, the naked Negroes decided to return to the shanty to secure their clothes. Proceeding very cautiously, by a circuitous route, and listening intently as they crept along they came to a spot from which they could see the outline of their hut not many yards away. Here they waited and watched once more, fearful that some of the masked gang might yet be at the cabin anticipating their return. Paying no attention to the hordes of mosquitoes, which feasted on their naked bodies, the five Negroes lay, scarcely breathing, in the deep grass just behind their little shanty. After some time, during which they heard no sounds, save the buzzing of the winged insects, and saw no actions around the cabin, they emerged silently from the shadows and reached the shanty once more. All was dark and quiet inside the shack as they peered cautiously through the broken window and the battered door. Just then the headlights of an approaching automobile far in the distance, but coming from the direction of Cranbury, came into view. Not knowing whether the masked men were returning or if the nearing car belonged to some late travelers the nude Negroes fled once more to the dense undergrowth not far away. The automobile came on very fast and behind it followed another one. However, both cars made no attempt to slow down and passed the cabin at a high rate of speed to disappear in the night. Everything was quiet once more. Returning to the shanty and making sure that no one was within all but one of the Negroes entered to find and don their clothing. Streeter remained outside to watch and to warn those inside should any of the masked riders return. None came. When all were dressed they agreed that Mr. Dey, for whom they worked, should be notified at once of what had taken place. They also figured that only one of the group should go to Dey for it would be much easier for one to conceal himself than for all five to do so. Holmes volunteered to take the news to his employer and to tell him what happened to them and to the Prestons, who yet were with the masked band, or else still at the clump of bushes where all had been disrobed and bound. Holmes, very anxious to see Dey, went quickly down the Old Trenton Road. He ran

(*Continued on page* 314)

Fascism Invades West Africa

By George Padmore

Monopoly, exploitation, strikes and widespread unrest in Britain's oldest African colony have caused a frightened imperialism to use frankly Fascist measures to destroy literate and politically conscious leadership of the native workers. Mr. Padmore calls upon American Negroes to back these workers and peasants in their struggle for better conditions

THE British West African Governments are reputed to be less reactionary than others on the Dark Continent, a reputation hardly borne out in fact. Quite true, the whole history of colonial development in West Africa has been entirely different from that on the East coast. This is chiefly due to the devitalizing climate arising from the low-lying malarial coast and the damp forest regions, which make West Africa unsuited to white settlement. Until recent years this part of the continent was referred to as "the white man's grave." For in the early days of the chartered companies tropical fevers took heavy toll among the European merchant adventurers. Even after the territories were taken over by the British Imperial Government in the 'nineties, Europeans were not encouraged to make their homes on the west coast as they had done in the highlands of Kenya and Tanganyika and the temperate sections of South Africa, Rhodesia and the Union. In consequence there has been comparatively little alienation of land for plantation purposes in the West African colonies of Gambia, Sierra Leone, Gold Coast and Nigeria. It can be said without exaggeration that the mosquito has rescued the West African blacks from the wage slavery of the whites.

Agriculture in West Africa, therefore, is carried on entirely by the native peoples, who have been encouraged to grow certain commercial crops, such as cotton, cocoa, palm nut, etc., to sell to European trading companies, and the majority of natives have access to more land than those in any other part of the continent. Because of this apologists for British imperialism try to make us believe that West Africans enjoy not only economic freedom but political democracy. Recent events, however, have given the lie to this assertion.

Monopoly Trading Companies

The greatest menace to them as producers are the monopoly trading combines. Vested interests are even more entrenched on the west coast than in East Africa, controlling trading, shipping and banking. In all these spheres there is a united front against the blacks. All interests function collectively. For example, all the companies engaged in the cocoa business have a buying agreement among themselves popularly referred to as "the pool." At the beginning of every harvest season, the pool members agree between them the price to be paid to the farmers for their crops. "The pool" works hand in glove with the banks and shipping companies, which have interlocking directorates. The chief villain in the piece is the United Africa Company, a subsidiary of that monster octopus, Unilever. United Africa, which has a capital of £11 million, controls half the crop of the West African colonies. In 1937 it made £1,741,099 profit and declared a dividend of 10%. Even the Quaker conscience does not prevent Cadbury Bros. from belonging to this racket. This firm buys a quarter of the annual crop.

Desperate in the face of the relentless methods by which "the pool" firms depressed the price of cocoa, the peasants of the Gold Coast staged a nation-wide strike by refusing to sell their 1937–38 crop to the companies, at the same time declaring a boycott against British goods. Such was the solidarity between all sections of the African toilers, producers and consumers, that the British Imperial Government was forced to appoint a commission to investigate their grievances. Although this commission condemned "the pool's" methods, the Africans are still at the tender mercies of the capitalists.

Political Awakening

This mass action was instrumental in stirring the political consciousness of the people, and a number of organizations sprang into existence with the two-fold object of agitating for better economic conditions and a voice in the government. Foremost among these organizations is the West Africa Youth League of Sierra Leone, which has already achieved a mass basis. Although trade union legislation is not effective, the League has succeeded in organizing a number of trade unions, among them the Railway Workers Union, the Public Works Workers Union, the Mine Workers Union, Seamen's Union, Dockers Union, and several other workers' organizations. This is a signal achievement for a movement which has been in existence hardly a year.

This movement has served not only

Mass protest demonstration against deportation and sedition ordinances. Freetown, Sierra Leone, West Africa. May 16, 1939

to plant the seeds of trade unionism in tropical Africa, but has linked up the industrial struggle of the masses with a political agitation for democratic rights and civil liberties.

Government Intervention

Alarmed at the intensity of this new development, the employers, especially the monopoly trading companies, have raised the cry that "Bolshevism" has invaded what was formerly an unrestricted paradise for merchant capitalists. Despite all the talk about "trusteeship" and "the paramountcy of native interests," which the imperial class is so fond of ladling out, the Governments are openly revealing themselves as the guardians of vested interests. Recent strikes among the mine workers and Government employees in Sierra Leone led to the arrest and imprisonment of the workers' leaders. These efforts of the Government to break the morale of the rank and file were unsuccessful, and realizing this, it has turned from a frontal attack to flank action.

At the opening of the Legislative Council on May 14th, Sir Douglas Jardine, the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the colony, introduced four ordinances, with the object of impeding all efforts of the masses to organize for any improvement in their lot, economic and political. These bills are quite frankly fascist and are aimed at destroying any literate or politically conscious leadership which could guide the workers to action. Without any detailed examination of the Bills (which space forbids), their titles alone give ample clue to their oppressive aims, as can be seen:

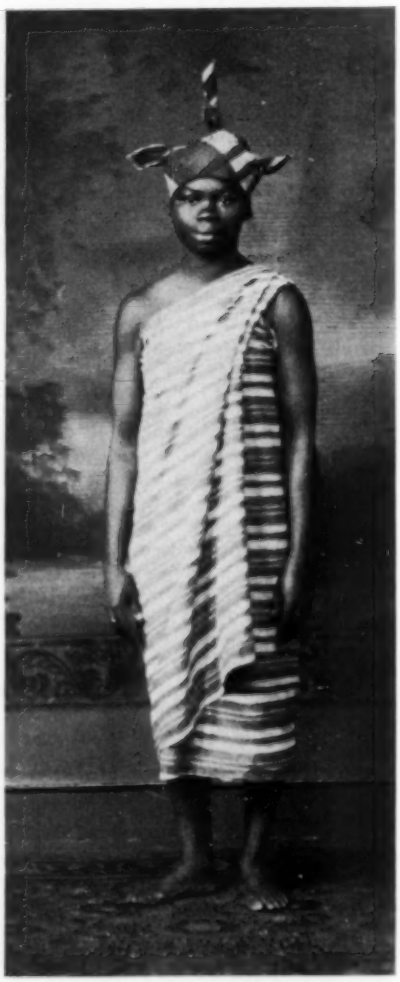
(1) Ordinance to regulate the deportation of undesirable British subjects and for similar purposes;

(2) Ordinance to provide for the punishment of seditious acts and seditious libels;

(3) Ordinance to prohibit the importation and publication of undesirable literature;

(4) Incitement to Disaffection Ordinance.

Under these ordinances there will be no writ of habeas corpus, as provided in section 21 of the Ordinance covering deportation, and no "other process calling in question of the legality of any order made under this Ordinance shall have any effect." Where natives of Sierra Leone are convicted to deportation they will be segregated in special areas in concentration camps, and if they or their family are in possession of any kind of means, compelled to contribute to their maintenance there.



West African Girl in Homespun Gown

Unrest Widespread

The prohibition of "undesirable" literature Ordinance and that covering incitement to disaffection are designed not only to render the masses without leadership, but also to guard against political activity within the armed forces. Very few people are aware that quite recently there was a mutiny among the native soldiers of the colony, and that Lord Russell court-marshalled eleven of them. They received sentences of from seven to ten years' penal servitude. Unrest is widespread not only among the industrial workers, but throughout the civil services and armed forces. And this accounts for the large number of white troops which have lately been stationed in Freetown.

The Government, however, has aroused tremendous opposition among the people against the introduction of this dictatorial legislation. They have shown in no uncertain manner that they will not allow themselves to be passively reduced to a position of slavery even worse than that they now suffer. On the opening day of the new Legislative session a monster mass demonstration took place. It represented rural assemblies of the National Congress, British West Africa Bar Association, Christian Council, Muslin League, Amalgamated Workers' Union, Citizens Committee, and all other sections of the community, and was the largest ever seen in Freetown. The thousands of natives composing the assembly demonstrated before the seat of legislation, and presented a petition to the Colonial Secretary voicing their indignation and protest against the bills and demanding their withdrawal. Copies of this document have been transmitted to the Secretary of State for the Colonies at Downing Street.

Coloured Americans have a moral obligation to stand back of these Negro workers and peasants in their struggle to ward off the tightening up of the "democratic" imperialist yoke. They should get their organizations to pass resolutions protesting against the way the Africans are being treated, copies of which should be sent to the Secretary of State for Colonies, London, and to the Governor of Sierra Leone, West Africa. We must not forget that these same people were in the forefront of the struggle on behalf of the Scottsboro boys and Angelo Herndon. Now is a splendid opportunity for Afro-Americans to show their solidarity with their brothers in Africa.

Leaves from a Jamaica Diary

By Ira DeA. Reid

NATURE has been kind to Jamaica. Here is an area of a troubled world that is neither too hot nor too cold, neither too high nor too low. If the lowlands of its coastal regions tend to make one too uncomfortable, he can retire to the hills of the Blue Mountains and rest in peace. If the caressing coolness of the mountains is too intimate, one can come down to Jamaica's plains and there find a warm and congenial climate, automatically cooled at sometime during the day when "the doctor" blows in from the current regions. There are sea-bathing and inland baths, mineral springs and radio-active waters. There is food that is tropical, abundant and life-sustaining. There is beauty of land and sea and sky. There is the semi-circle of mountains framing violently blue skies teased by masses of ever green trees, and the stately arrogance of tall, majestic, fan-like royal palms. There is a beauty that answers every need of living . . . . Nature has been kind to Jamaica. Natives and tourists testify to this.

Nurture has been profligate in Jamaica. For two hundred years the land and the people have been consciously or unconsciously exploited for private and foreign gain. The land that once could raise enough sugar and rum to make punch out of the whole Thames, can not now market enough of its chief product to be economically respectable. For years men and boys, women and girls, have migrated to Cuba and Costa Rica, the Panama Canal Zone and the United States' mainland in search of an adequate substance. As they went out bananas came in. When repatriation of emigrees became necessary, leaf spot disease began to havoc the banana crop, prices fell and the island suffered. Repatriated laborers and anxious stockholders bear witness to this fact.

Absentee Ownership

Planters in Jamaica have never been particularly provident with the Island's human and natural resources. Those of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries spent most of their lives and earnings abroad, leaving the management of their plantations to the overseers or "bushas." More recently organized capital has invested in Jamaican sugar and bananas, developing potentialities as much as possible, and leaving little of the profit in the island. Nurture has made Jamaica an absentee-owned island suffering from economic senility and clothed in an outworn plantation economy. In nurture the island is poor. Its people are to a great extent impoverished by the deliberate, and at times unconscious, exploitation of the few who own and control. They endure a poverty that is both of the belly kind that may be banished with more adequate supplies of ackee and salt fish, and of the culture variety that may be sated only with the gaining of a life other than miserably peasant, and a liberty other than one granted by English and Jamaican law. Nurture has been most profligate in Jamaica. Bedward and Garvey and Bustamante have borne evidence of this.

Two centuries of senseless exploitation by profit-hunting absentee owners, Mr. Reid finds, has converted fruitful and smiling Jamaica into a teeming poorhouse, a land where ignorance, malnutrition and illegitimacy are rife; a land top-heavy with taxation and without social services. But the New Negro is on the march in Jamaica, and a disgruntled middle-class is working with militant labor to effect a change

Middle Class Revolt

Government has been singularly ineffective in Jamaica. The black codes of slavery, the tragedy of apprenticeship, the military aspect of British Empire control, the appointment of new and more officials, the ten-shilling-voters, the state-of-emergency acts, and quasi-martial law have not cured the evils of a colonial state that infest Jamaica. Today the middle-class-minded colored population is wearing the swaddling clothes of revolt. Once there were favors in the form of jobs that government could grant them, but today, these jobs are relatively fewer, and the civil waiting list is so long that young middle class colored Jamaicans are talking of organizing unions in their own behalf. Government has announced, even initiated, plans and projects—but they have been too inadequate, too unplanned. Government initiates a program of social legislation that excludes agricultural labor, the principal source of Jamaican's employment. Government initiates a land settlement scheme for small planters that is ineffective because taxes take away the small profit that may be possible. Workers flock to Kingston from the country. Kingston offers a more satisfactory relief program than the country areas, even than those where as high as 60% of a parish's income is spent for relief programs of some sort.

Government's program of taxation is most unfortunate for the man farthest down. Custom duties for staple products which he must have—this nethermost man pays. Income taxes in the higher brackets are among the lowest west of the Atlantic. The value of imports into Jamaica increased from $20,000,000 in 1933 to $30,000,000 in 1937. The United Kingdom got 40.2% of this trade in the earlier years, but only 33.7% in 1937. German's proportion increased from 1.9% to 3.5% in the same period. During the years in question the value of Jamaican exports increased from $13,000,0000 to $25,000,000. The British Empire received 85.04% of this value in 1933, but only 81.7% in 1937. Germany's proportion increased from 1.28% to 2.8% during the same period. Meanwhile, the tourist trade has become Jamaica's third ranking industry, valued at approximately $2,000,000 in 1937. Most of this came from the United States.

Poverty Abounds

Yes, nature and nurture and government have not combined very effectively in Jamaica. Poverty is abounding in city and country. Visit off the beaten trail and see why natives were forcibly removed by police from the Dungle or dunghill. Walk along Spanish town road at night! See Smith's Pen or Trench Pen. One may tell you that there is no degrading poverty in Jamaica, but there is. It is both degrading and dire. And it is induced by some factors over which neither nature, nor nurture, nor government, nor "nigger," nor "busha," nor "massa" has sole control. Annually for more than a decade Jamaica has reported approximately 15,000 more births than deaths, a rate of increase that will double the population within the lifetime of a ten year old child. Once, when it multi-

plied so rapidly, a part of the excess population could move to other American countries. Today, it breeds just as prolifically, but has no haven other than home. Jamaica with a million people stands in need of a great and lasting social and economic reform. Students and Royal Commissions have attested this.

Much has been written about Jamaica—its loveliness, its superstitions, its problems, its possibilities. The island has been put into song and rime, into polemics and official reports. Bryan Edwards, Sir Harry Johnston, Lord Olivier, Frank Cundall, H. J. DeLisser and others have given great and good evidence on the plight and possibilities of the area. More recently W. M. MacMillan and W. Arthur Lewis have signalled danger. Waugh and others have written of the tranquil lot of the Jamaica peasant. There have been tracts and monographs on federating the West India islands. There have been scientific studies of the sugar and the banana industries. There have been analyses of the problems of migration, emigration and health. And there have been forceful presentations of the problems of illegitimacy and malnutrition that have not yet received the passionate attention they deserve. Tourists have come, peered, snooped and reported on how the cocks crow all night, how "useless" are Jamaican women, how "awful" are the roads, how hideous the all night barking of dogs, how lovely the Jamaican nights. Yes, much has been written on Jamaica. Libraries and official dossiers bear mute and unread evidence of this.

Thriving Discontent

But little has been done about Jamaica—and that is the meat upon which the Caesar of Jamaican discontent doth feed. Here, stereotyped class structures, Caribbean snobbery and peasant poverty stalk hand in hand. People know not where to turn. How are the classes going to save face? How are the masses going to get work? What can be done about that annual pension list of $425,000—a sum equal to 73% of the island's total revenue from direct taxation? What about illegitimacy? Even now approximately two-thirds of all the children born in any one year are illegitimate. Forget the moral side of it, if you wish, but remember that when seventy per cent of a population has not the home life that typifies western civilization, that population is going to be more nomadic than the remaining thirty per cent. And where is it going? No country in the immediate vicinity wants poor immigrants. Birth Control? The Government knows that the control of population growth is necessary, but it will neither initiate nor stop the birth control movement. The church is more outspoken on the subject. It is against any form of birth control. Housing? There is no brief description of the problem that will suffice. A few attempts have been made to improve general conditions—but these at best are inadequate, and any effective housing program must be heavily subsidized by government.

Census Rarely Taken

Yet, even if we were to undertake these programs of reform in Jamaica today, no scientific planning for them would be possible. Jamaica does not know how many men and women, how many family units it has, nor the ages of its population. There has never been a study of family incomes. Statistics on the real wages of workers, with the possible exception of those in government service, are rank jokes. Jamaica has not had a census in eighteen years. It failed to authorize the decennial census in 1931 for budgetary reasons. It was cheaper, of course, to spend money on large scale enterprises for which there were no planning facts. The United Fruit Company, which does a tremendous business in Jamaica, knows that something needs to be done, but, following out its reciprocal program of cooperating with the various governments it complains little unless forced to do so. The Company does try to supplement the inadequate governmental resources by giving to its Jamaica Welfare Association a ha'-penny for each exported stem of bananas. Government, meanwhile, must post notices like this:

> "Labourers and small contractors are hereby warned that the Kingston and St. Andrew Corporation cannot offer employment to any more of them.
>
> "They are accordingly advised to seek employment elsewhere.
>
> By Order
>
> Herbert L. Harris
>
> Town Clerk
>
> January 14, 1939."

One million people bear aggrieved, and at times riotous, evidence of this.

Labor Organizing

The fact remains that something is going to be done about Jamaica—eventually. Already, the island is taking some things in hand. The English labor movement might well be surprised over what Jamaica calls a trade union, and its trade union principles, but it cannot deny the power of its organized masses. Bustamante, with his will-to-power, capitalized on the very Jamaican traits that made Garvey and Bedward, but he has used them differently and with greater social effect. He has introduced a crude and elementary form of basic economics into the social milling of the Jamaican masses. Norman Manley, K.C., as leader of the People's National Party is pioneering in the contemporary movement for basic and lasting reform. He has the intelligence, the training, the respect of the people, the devotion to race and country, and an intensity of purpose that will carry any strong movement through to a definite goal. He has brought the middle classes and the workers more closely together than they ever have been. For the first time in Jamaican history "coloured" and "black" are seeing eye to eye, not so much socially as economically and politically. It will mean little, therefore, to disturbed Jamaicans that a labor officer arrives from England, if the labor problem is not faced squarely.

Nor will the obtaining of a new constitution necessarily make for Jamaican peace. Jamaica now searches for a more fundamental change of which mere legislative actions are but indices. The island has been too greatly influenced by the rapid social changes of the Western World to be satisfied with "typical" colonial treatment. Its returned workers have seen and noted new work standards and agreements. These workers prefer new ways to the archaic plantation-like conditions of their native island. They say that Jamaica must become a place of which their children might be proud. They know no theory of economics. They have no passionate political philosphy. But they are emotionally conditioned for any program destined to improve their lot. This, then, is the Jamaican spectre that haunts Great Britain.

Recently a dispatch in the London press reported that the Bustamante Industrial Unions will not sing the national anthem at future sessions because of "dissatisfaction at what he (Alexander Bustamante) calls the interference of the police who attend the meetings and take notes of his speeches. Instead they will close with the Union Hymn." The glory-line of this hymn is "We will follow Bustamante till we die." And why shouldn't these workers do just that? They have nothing to lose but their stems.

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Fraternities at the Crossroads

By Randolph Edmonds

Mr. Edmonds believes Negro college fraternities and sororities are in need of an enlarged and more vigorous program along cooperative lines. At present, he feels, there is entirely too much overlapping of activities. In this article he suggests ways of increasing the usefulness of these organizations to the group

"THE chaotic condition of the world during the past few years makes it certain that the very best judgment and thought of our racial group should be brought into play to aid in moulding our future. In this, fraternities and sororities should play a major part." This is an excerpt from the introduction to the constitution of The National Pan-Hellenic Council, Incorporated, the organization formed to unify thought and action so far as Negro Greek letter fraternities and sororities are concerned. That it is a bold challenge worthy of any group is undeniable. The only fly in the ointment, however, is the word *should*; for it is over the question of what Greek letter societies should and should not do that has created a battle of opinion which like Tennyson's brook goes on forever. Fortunately one does not have to take the extreme position either of the arch critic or the partisan member to realize the need for these organizations to rethink their aims and reexamine their programs with a view towards further cutting down the great discrepancy between what is professed and what is accomplished. For it is all too clear that if there is to be a major part played in moulding the Negro life of the future, still more that is substantial must come out of the conclaves, conventions, and boules.

Few will doubt the enormous possibilities of the fraternities and sororities for an enlarged program. One often hears that "anybody who is somebody among the younger members of the race belongs to one of them." Allowing for the obvious gross exaggeration in this facetious remark, it is safe to state that the organizations can count an exceedingly great array of intellectual talent on their rosters. Even the numbers are impressive. Of the collegiate Greek letter societies over ten years old, four are fraternities: Alpha Phi Alpha, Omega Psi Phi, Kappa Alpha Psi, and Phi Beta Sigma. In addition to these collegiate groups are The Boule, probably the most venerated, and Chi Delta Mu, the medical fraternity. The four sororities are: Alpha Kappa Alpha, Delta Sigma Theta, Zeta Phi Beta and Sigma Gamma Rho. More recently organized sororities are: Phi Delta Kappa and Iota Phi Lambda. The total estimated membership of the combined groups is around twenty-five thousand. All with few exceptions have training above the high school level, with the great majority being college and professional school graduates.

One can never be sure of what is spent *en masse* each year by the total congeries of the Greeks, because of the secret nature inherent in the organizations. A rough estimation would run from $10.00 to $25.00 for initiations, and from $2.50 to $7.50 or $10.00 for yearly dues. Applying these figures to the total membership of 25,000 estimated above, one would get a considerable sum.

So it is clear that the Greek letter societies have high ideals, impressive numbers, a highly intellectual membership, and thousands of dollars to use in a far-reaching program.

Why Criticized

Before any adequate suggestions can be given concerning the use of these great potentialities, however, certain points of background need clearing up. We should understand why the Greek letter groups have in the past been so severely criticized and denounced; and what these organizations have done to offset these strictures. Still further there should be a clear declaration of a standard by which we can measure the importance of programs.

There have been so many points and counter points in the case of the people against the noble Greeks that they are exceedingly difficult to list or categorize. When sifted down to essentials, however, there are two arguments advanced by the critics which have been most difficult to refute. The first states that fraternities and sororities are useless organizations doing nothing unusually constructive, and the second, that Negro life is beset with too many thorny problems for a learned membership to fritter away its time in activities of dubious value.

The fraternities and sororities realized very early that they could not follow the example of the three monkeys and see, hear, and speak nothing about the situation. More important, they could not continue to do nothing, for these accusations cut at the very tap root of their existence as worthwhile organizations. So they embarked upon a series of activities that have answered the critics in deeds rather than in words.

These programs, first of all include the sponsoring of a week in which each Greek letter group attempts to inculcate some ideal, to wit, the Omega's "Achievement Program," the Alpha's "Education for Citizenship," the Kappa's "Guide Right," and the Sigma's "Bigger and Better Negro Business." The celebrations of the sororities center around education and finer womanhood. On another front, practically all of the organizations have endorsed the work of The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, The National Urban League, The Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, and the more important labor unions and organizations among Negroes. The endorsements, of course, have gone much further than a lip service approval. Practically all of the groups have taken out life memberships

Wilberforce University

costing hundreds of dollars in one or more of the organizations. In addition, several have made more substantial contributions such as that made by the Alphas to the celebrated University of Maryland case handled by the N.A.A.C.P., and the hundreds of dollars donated by the Kappas to the N.A.A.C.P.'s campaign for educational equalities. The most ambitious of the projects by any group is the series of health clinics set up in the South by Alpha Kappa Alpha. For the last five years members of this sorority have travelled over Bolivar and Holmes counties in Mississippi carrying a program of health education to the improvident and pellagra-ridden sharecroppers of that section.

It is obvious that a detailed listing of these activities would occupy too much space for one brief article; so it is sufficient to conclude that each of the Greek letter organizations can point with pride to some ideal it has promulgated, and to some worthwhile grants it has made to organizations battling the social, educational and economic problems of our age.

Programs Hold Members

For the fees extracted from the constituents and neophytes and various national administrations have established some fraternity and sorority houses in strategic centers, and provided scholarships from both the national offices and local chapters. A few of these have been foreign fellowships and grants-in-aid for research projects running as high as $1,000. In short the recent programs of the Greek letter groups have been of such a nature as to hold the allegiance of their members and, for the most part, drive the invectives of the critics from the front pages of our weeklies.

Now that we get a gist of what is offered by the Pan-Hellenic societies, the next critical question raised is: are the types of programs sufficiently important to regard as ends in themselves? If such is not the case, why not? The answers are not so easy as they seem at first. Before even tentative replies can be given we must have a yard stick by which we can measure the meaningful. And since there is no standard for the significant which has gained widespread acceptance, an arbitrary one will have to suffice for the purpose of this discourse.

In the first place, there are two types of worthwhile programs which we shall designate as *general* and *creative*. The concept of a general program takes in such enterprises as helping the poor, educating the ignorant, and contributing to the religious, economic, aesthetic, patriotic, physical, moral, intellectual, and general well being of a nation, group, or individual. The essence of a general program is its loose nature, a symbiosis of many organizations working more or less separately yet contributing, to a desirable end.

The word *creative* implies vision and originality. Applied to programs it means the charting of a course that is different and distinctive. It nails up a quarantine sign against duplications as though it were a plague. It says in effect that if an organization already in existence is functioning successfully in a focal area it is tantamount to a *verboten*, because it is a waste of time and effort for another group to perform exactly or even approximately the same task.

Even though there is a certain amount of exclusiveness implied, a creative program does not mean original in the sense of something that has never been done before. The exclusiveness is relative. For example if the United States observed the fine work of an organization in Europe and decided to introduce the same type of enterprise in America, it would be creative. In a like manner, if some group of Americans founded an organization that proved successful in filling a need in a specific field, a like association started by Negroes for the same purpose would have a creative program. History is filled with such influences of one group on another. However, inasmuch as the creative pattern for action does not duplicate the work of other groups in a restricted field, it ranks higher in the scale than the general.

Now that we have a somewhat acceptable criterion let us scrutinize once again the fraternity and sorority programs. Even a desultory examination will reveal the fact that wherever they are engaged in useful and worthwhile activities, they are of the general type which means they largely duplicate the work of other organizations. For example: The Omega's "Achievement Week" commemoration comes very close in purpose and procedure to the program of The Association for the Study of Negro Life and History; the Alpha's "Education for Citizenship" bears the same relationship to a phase of the work of The N.A.A.C.P., and the "Bigger and Better Negro Business" observance of the Sigma fraternity is an echo of The National Negro Business League. The "Guide Right" celebration of the Kappa fraternity, and the educational and finer womanhood extolations of the sororities are carried on effectively by parent-teacher organizations, Sunday Schools, Church Clubs, Y.M. and Y.W.C.A.'s and other community and educational associations. As for scholarships, The N.Y.A. scholarships, college aid programs, and the fellowships of the various foundations make the efforts of the Greeks seem weak and feeble, and largely unnecessary except in certain rare fields like medicine where the others do not function. As for the endorsements of organizations such as The National Urban League and others, as splendid a thing as cooperation undoubtedly is, it is sheer folly to form national associations and pay large dues merely to endorse the work of other groups with more creative vision. Organization are founded primarily to carry out a constructive program of their own rather than to meet in convention and congratulate other groups for well doing.

Alpha's Health Project

The Alpha Kappa Alpha health project is not quite so easily dismissed. The sorority has spent many thousands of dollars and performed a meritorious service in an area where health education is greatly needed. However, the reaction of the average individual would be that the primary initiative and responsibility for Negro health should be taken by the various medical, health, and nurse associations with sororities, fraternities, and other groups cooperating rather than leading. Of course health is such a large field that there must be areas in which the ordinary medical and health organizations cannot function successfully. If, as it appears, the members of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority have sought out one of those rare fields for concentration, they should be congratulated for their wisdom. If not, as laudable as their efforts undoubtedly have been, their activities would fall into the general rather than the creative class. In short the impartial observer is forced to the conclusion that sorority and fraternity programs are in the main general and duplicatory with very few creative features to lift them above the ordinary.

At this point, it should be made clear that no suggestion apropos of discontinuing the present activities of the Greek letter commonality is intended. It is just and praiseworthy to "be peculiarly interested in all movements which have a scintilla of hope for improving the social order," as it is stated in the Pan-Hellenic hand book. The point that is emphasized is that this continues to make for a general program when the crying need of the Pan-Hellenic groups is for a creative program. The present activities of a sponsored and cooperative nature from spe-

(*Continued on page* 315)

Black Beauty and the University

By L. D. Reddick

IF the gods of mirth have not lost their sense of humor, they must surely "split their sides" with laughter every time they contemplate the spectacle of the Negro in America. Oppressed, suppressed, repressed — hemmed in on every hand, yet, by some strange twist of fate the colored brother has a way of conspicuous appearance at high places on so many important occasions. "Cuffee" the antebellum press used to call him, and a veritable "irrepressible Cuffee" he must be for throughout the length and breadth of this land of democracy old Cuffee has a way of mocking custom and law, propaganda and prejudice, to overleap the barriers to achievement. Ever so often, it seems, he bobs up in the parlor when so many pains have been taken to "arrange" for him in the kitchen. It has ever been so since 1619—and before.

Everything "they" said colored people couldn't do has been done by one or many—except (in America) the winning of a beauty contest. The University of Chicago almost had a smooth brown-skin as beauty queen, but the Nordics could not suffer this last stronghold to be taken. A little oldfashioned ballot box stuffing did the trick and white supremacy, though tottering, was saved again

The irony of the high visibility of the Negro throughout the whole fabric of American life and history in the light of the structure of verbal (and other) antagonisms reared against him is so curiously confounding that it could hardly be other than a joke of some mischievious or diabolic god.

Though the textbooks seldom mention it, there is the high probability of at least two Negroes with Christopher Columbus. Too, when Balboa first gazed upon the Pacific, when Cortez took Mexico, when Pizarro stole Peru, when DeSoto stumbled upon the Mississippi and Ponce de Leon wandered, searching for the "Fountain of Youth," black men were with them all. Estevanico, with Cabeca de Vaca, trooped across most of the southeastern and southwestern part of the United States (1528-36), and in his own right was a "medicine man" to the Indians and "discovered" the "Seven Cities of Cibola." Even today, the Zuni still sing of the black warrior who came to them from the "land of everlasting summer. . . . ."

Revolutionary War

The American Revolution and the War for Independence, no doubt, constitute the most glorious tradition of patriotic America. And the Negro was there, too. Every historian agrees that the Boston "Massacre" either furnished one of the sparks which set off the conflict a little later, or, at least, it supplied Samuel Adams with ammunition for his propaganda machine. At any rate, Crispus Attucks was a ringleader of the mob of March 5, 1770. Peter Salem charged at Bunker Hill and years later when independence from the mother country was to be confirmed by the War of 1812, the mulatto battalion joined Andrew Jackson to turn back Packenham's "Red Coats" at New Orleans. The great American Civil War or "War Between the States," if you live in Kentucky, or "War for Southern Independence," if you live in Georgia or Mississippi, provided the irony of ironies when the Lincoln North kept repeating that the war was not an *abolition* war, that the Negroes as refugees or soldiers were unwanted, while the Jefferson Davis South kept boasting that theirs was the first nation which had as its keystone the elevation of the white race and the degradation of the black. . . . .

After all this, as fate would have it, both sides in desperation were forced by the objective conditions to turn to the Negro to settle the issue between them. As every one knows, during the last days of the Confederacy the Southern government had to eat whatever pride there may have remained and did authorize the arming of Negroes to fight in the war which started out to make the world safe for slavery! Equally paradoxical, the North was forced to declare the war an abolition war in order to maintain the friendship of Britain; armed some two hundred thousand Negro soldiers; and could not feel confident of quelling the rebellion without destroying through the Emancipation Proclamation the support which Negro labor was giving the Southern side.

Out of Egypt—A Negro Pharaoh

Saving World for Democracy

Several decades later in the war to take Cuba from Spain (and see that England didn't get it), "Teddy" Roosevelt led the assault at Las Guasimas and San Juan Hill. A multi-colored soldiery (the 9th and 10th cavalry and the 24th infantry) charged behind the "Rough Riders." About two decades after that, when Woodrow Wilson was inspired to inspire the American people to make "the world safe for democracy," again the question arose: "What about the Negro?" In retrospect the American war with Germany may appear to many of us as a rather strange war. On the other hand, it must have been exceedingly difficult for the citizens of color living under the caste-like arrangement of Mississippi or in the black ghetto of Chicago to understand just why this government had to cross some three thousand miles of ocean to concern itself with a violation of the democratic dogma.

All the same, three hundred and eighty thousand Negroes volunteered and were drafted and despite the anti-Negro propaganda spread among the "Allies" by fellow soldiers of Caucasian strain, no less than the occasional conflicts between black and white Americans "over there," four entire dark regiments were decorated with the *Croix de Guerre*. After democracy had been appropriately saved and the war was over, the black soldier returned to his "fatherland." Instead of the plaudits of an appreciative nation, he was greeted with a wave of race riots stretching from Atlanta through Washington to Chicago. Perhaps the black men had imbibed too much of real democracy, that is, "social equality," from the French. Surely, this must have been a grim joke of some devilish god or some god-like devil.

But wars are not everything and the Negro, like everyone else, must live from day to day and meet his fellows in the competition of life. But the colored citizen, everyone believed, was inferior. The Bible said so, "science" and "scholarship" proved it and common sense confirmed it. Therefore, reasoned the American people, it could hardly hurt to put a few extra obstacles in his way. This may not have been theoretically the purest of logic, but it was, as a matter of truth, the actual procedure.

Athletes and Intellectuals

The American Republic has been ever a boasting republic, certain of its "manifest destiny." Everyone agreed, at least all loyal Americans agreed, that according to "natural law" these United States should and would sweep from ocean to ocean and stretch from pole to pole. Too, in its uncultured tribalism there was much bragging about the physical warriors. So much so that even today when near-naked young men pound each other's bodies with the padded fist, almost everyone of importance must be present or at least close to the radio. Even the President would not dare to offer the competition of a "Fireside Chat" to a heavyweight championship battle. But even here, in this primitive, vulgar demonstration of brute strength and skill, there stands a black phalanx: Joe Louis, heavyweight champion and Henry Armstrong, welterweight champion.

When we come to the realm of the intellectual, we find one preserve especially reserved "for white only." John C. Calhoun the "Great Nullifier" used to add as the peroration of his defense of slavery: "Show me one Negro who can parse a Greek verb and I will be willing, then, to admit the Negro as the equal of the white man." Of course, many Negroes must have parsed many Greek verbs during and before Calhoun's lifetime; however, be that as it may, old John must surely turn over in his grave when he realizes that black students have since his day parsed Greek verbs a million times over. In his very home state of South Carolina, despite laws to the contrary, they are now seeking to carry on the record in the state-supported university. To date there have been about one hundred and sixty Negro Phi Beta Kappas and one hundred and forty Ph.Ds. Even the doubting professors at the great universities cannot shut their eyes to the evidence. Thus, the first monograph in the Harvard Historical Series was the one of W. E. B. DuBois. Though Harvard's medical school no longer admits Negro students, there are still such brilliant graduates as Quinland, Thomas, Cuff and Wright to mock this discrimination. From the University of Chicago, Dr. Robert E. Park, one of the fathers of the scientific study of society in this country, has declared publicly that Charles S. Johnson is the best student he has ever had. The school of education in the same university feels that Horace Bond and Charles Thompson are two of the brightest minds it has ever turned out. And there are others.

It seemed that old Cuffee was storming every height: explorer, athlete, intellectual—not to mention the poets, musicians, inventors and leaders of labor.

Not so bad for an "inferior" man. . . .

The intellectual gymnastics that were necessary to explain away these accomplishments surely must have furnished the climax of the comedy to Puck and his companions. The Negro athletic prowess could be rationalized on the basis that after all the Negro was a sub-human brute. When Ned Gourdin of Harvard won the world's broad jump championship, the late and not universally lamented Arthur Brisbane pointed out that the ape-like lower limbs of the Negro made this feat possible. Even after the Olympic victories of the "black auxiliary" at Berlin in 1936, which obviously gave the *coup de grace* to the Nazi nordic myth of superiority, there were several suggestions that maybe, when all had been said and done, the more nearly primitive black men were at an advantage in such competition. The Negro intellectuals, of course, were freaks (!) and the fact that Negroes were with the European explorers and occasionally shone in the national wars was almost of the order of, as one professor put it, "accidents of history. . . ." But there was one realm which was forever to remain sacrosanct, one mountain top to which Cuffee could never ascend. This was in the land of beauty.

The Chicago Beauty Contest

So the boys and girls at the University of Chicago decided to have a beauty contest to pick the queen of the season and to decorate her with the honors of the social gallantry. "Cap and Gown" one of the oldest (43 years) and most exclusive of the campus organizations staged the contest. Naturally every Senior co-ed was eligible and every paid-up undergraduate could vote. At first all went smoothly. But when the votes began to mount up, it was found that one Geraldine Lane was leading. "Who was Geraldine Lane?" asked the Cap and Gown men. It came out—horror of horrors, that Geraldine Lane was, as the local dailies put it, "a beautiful *colored* girl." Well! What could be done about it? "Call off the contest," said some. "Declare her ineligible," said others. "Would she retire if we offered her second place?" "Cap and Gown could never print her picture." "What would happen at the dances?" "A Negress queen of the Proms!" O fates, O love, O, what could be done? The consternation reminded one of the lines in James Weldon Johnson's, "St. Peter Relates an Incident of the Resurrection Day." When the unknown soldier came forth from the tomb upon the day of judgment, the D.A.R.'s, G.A.R.'s K.K.K.'s and all of the other "hundred per centers" were martialed to receive him,

> He, underneath the debris, heaved and hove
> Up toward the opening which they cleaved and clove;
> Through it, at last, his towering form loomed
> Big and bigger
> "Great God Almighty! Look!" they cried,
> "He is a nigger!"

But some bright lad cut the gordian knot. He had a solution which would save everyone's face and at the same time maintain the lily-white purity of the fraternity which brags of its anti-liberalism. Strangely, very strangely, the co-ed in second place, untainted by the African strain, shot up into first place far, far ahead of all others. In fact, so far ahead that some of the local mathematicians have wondered whether some of those voting students only voted once. The campus liberals were outraged. Members of the American Student Union and the Chapel Union denounced the proceedings. Impartial observers commented that the creole-like, svelte, attractiveness of Miss Lane would have done credit to any "social." But for this tradition-shattering departure to have been made would have taken a bit more courage than this group of men seemed to possess. As a result, the Negro girl withdrew[1] from the contest; white supremacy was maintained and again one of the great and comparatively liberal institutions in the country has suffered a black eye because of the narrowness and race chauvinism of a group of young academy fascists.

[1] Despite the withdrawal, Miss Lane ended up in fourth place. Interestingly, her zealous campaign manager, maternally stems from Southern stock. *Pulse*, official student monthly of the University of Chicago, refers to those who voted for Miss Lane as "smart-alecs and mis-guided liberals."

Editorials

Editor, ROY WILKINS
Advisory Board: Dr. Louis T. Wright, Lewis Gannett, Walter White

The Great Betrayal

THE most amazing occurence of the second World War unquestionably is the joining of Communist Russia and Fascist Germany in the dismemberment of Poland and the setting up of a new power alignment in Europe. The amazement is occasioned not so much by the difference in the two governments (for, upon analysis, there does not appear to be much difference in their modes of operation) but by the professions of each.

Hitler rode to power upon his preachments against Communism. The German upper classes elevated the former house painter to the Chancellery because they believed he would save their property and country from the dreaded Reds. The poor Germans, who had little or no property to save, were roped in by the campaign against the Jews.

Stalin, smarter by far than he looks, sat tightly on his seat in the Kremlin and directed a world-wide fight against Fascism. The world would be saved for peace only if the democracies, in which he included the Soviet Union, would unite against the Fascist aggressors. The Red lieutenants in every country took up the cry. The fellow travelers followed along. The doctrine was reasonable and logical. If a flaw were to be picked in it, it was that England could not be trusted to fight Fascism wholeheartedly.

Came the Czech crisis and Munich. The Soviet Union was not invited to help Chamberlain and Daladier sell the Czechs to Hitler and Mussolini. The Kremlin poured forth its scorn, called it names.

Came the Polish crisis, brought to a head only after Hitler and Stalin had smoked a peace pipe and signed a pact, labeled at the time by each as a non-aggression agreement. The world knows now that it was a pact to divide Poland, with the German army doing the slaughtering and the Soviet army the scavenging. As this is written, the Russians and the Germans are hammering at the gates of Warsaw, pinching out the last bit of life in the Polish nation.

These September actions have unmasked the Soviets. The Kremlin has staged the great betrayal and ranged itself alongside Hitler, not only on the battlefield, but at the conference table where treaties and pledges are but scraps of paper. At Munich Hitler said Germany had no territorial ambitions beyond the Sudetenland. For years Stalin has been saying the Soviet Union has no territorial ambitions and hates aggression. Today the armies of both nations are on foreign soil, killing a neighboring people, grabbing territory outside their national boundaries.

When Hitler went into Austria and Czechoslovakia, he did it (he said) to protect Germany's "blood brothers" in those places. When the Soviet armies marched into Poland, Premier Molotoff said:

"The Soviet government deems it its sacred duty to extend the hand of assistance to its brother Ukrainians and brother Byelo-Russians inhabiting Poland."

Needless to say, the followers of the Soviet in foreign countries have been left high and dry by the turn of events. Hundreds of thousands, if not millions, have been disillusioned. Minority groups, such as the Negro in America, who had been looking to Soviet Russia to furnish the example by which minority problems might be worked out equitably, are likewise in confusion. As the New York *Times* well puts it, "Hitlerism is Brown Communism, Stalinism is Red Fascism."

Those Negroes who had not read the signs in the Soviet actions, *not pronouncements,* in the Italian-Ethiopian War, and in the brutal and bloody Soviet purges and fantastic "trials," can now have no cause for misunderstanding. We still can be sure that minorities have no chance for life under Fascism and we can be certain, also, that Fascism in Europe is not confined to Italy and Germany. We must choose between liberty, peace and life, and terror, war and destruction. The path is well marked.

On Buying Homes

WITH his usual acumen, President Roosevelt spoke out recently upon a subject which has brought untold confusion, humiliation and heartaches to Negro Americans: home buying. Utilizing an inquiry from Father Divine as to his attitude toward the Divinites's possible purchase of an estate near the President's home at Hyde Park, New York, the Chief Executive wrote that Father Divine's followers had the right to purchase a home or land wherever they desired.

This is fine sentiment from the White House and undoubtedly had some effect upon the general attitude toward the purchase of homes by Negroes. Judging by past performances, it will not have much effect upon real estate men, or upon banks and loan associations. One of the most discouraging obstacles facing Negroes who want to become solid citizens and rear good families is the difficulty of purchasing desirable homes.

If Mr. Roosevelt wants to translate his words into helpful action, he might begin with one of his own creations, the Federal Housing Authority. The Editor of THE CRISIS is completing a rather rapid motor tour from New York to the Pacific Coast and return. Only hurried interviews could be had in a one-month swing, but everywhere the story is the same: the FHA has not aided Negroes who had jobs, income, security and collateral to buy or build decent homes. The restrictions are so tight, the racial discrimination so flagrant that Negroes who could build good homes have given up in disgust. Banks and loan associations are closed to them except on the most stringent and expensive terms. Re-financing is practically non-existent.

The FHA cannot cure this situation entirely, but it can help. At the present time, not only is it not helping, but it is using its influence to "freeze" the Negro home-buying situation into a pattern from which the race will not escape for another fifty years.

Mr. Roosevelt wrote a good letter to Father Divine. He might try his hand at one to Director Stewart McDonald of the FHA.

Defending Democracy

THE sudden concern of the country over current threats to democracy abroad and the expressed desire to defend it at all costs has surprised and gratified colored Americans. Not since the World War has so much been said here about fighting for the rights of oppressed minorities, for equality, justice and freedom for the weak and outnumbered, for the privilege of all men to determine their destiny to the extent of their desire and ability. Never before has vicious racialism been so ridiculed and denounced.

On the surface it would seem that a new day is in the offing for the disinherited. Colored Americans entertain the hope that this new-found zeal for democracy will find expression in a destruction of the barriers which surround them in this country. After all, democracy like charity should begin at home.

The sincerity of this new affection for democracy will be established beyond doubt when the restrictions on Negro suffrage are removed in the South, when lynching is nationally outlawed, when residential housing restrictions are made illegal, when the jim crow car is abolished, when educational equality is established, and when the job embargo against Negro workers is raised.

In short, we shall have more confidence in the sincerity of these loud advocates of war for democracy abroad when they show more willingness to fight for it at home.

Distinguished Soldier Passes

MAJOR GEORGE W. FORD

Springfield, Ill., lost one of its most distinguished citizens on June 30, when Major George W. Ford, soldier, retired superintendent of Camp Butler national cemetery, long an active member and one-time president of the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, passed away in his 91st year. He was a charter member of the famed Niagara Movement.

A member of the original Tenth Cavalry from its formation in 1867 until 1873 when he was honorably discharged, Major Ford saw service in Indian fighting on the great plains in Indian Territory, Kansas, New Mexico, Arizona and Texas, and engaged in numerous Indian skirmishes under General Custer. In June 1938, his portrait was placed in the archives at Leavenworth, Kansas, as the lone survivor of the Tenth Cavalry.

Entering the national cemetery service in 1878, he served continuously until 1930, except during the Spanish-American war when, given leave of absence from his duties, he served as major in the second battalion of the Twenty-Third Kansas Volunteers. In the cemetery service he was assistant superintendent at Chattanooga, Tenn.; then superintendent at Beauford, S. C.; Fort Scott, Kansas, and Port Hudson, La., and finally at Camp Butler, near Springfield, Ill.

Major Ford knew Gen. Nelson A.

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Juba II, African King

By J. W. Haywood, Jr.

THE neglect of history has not availed to rob the personality of Juba II, king of the Libyco-Numidian realm during the early stages of the Roman Empire, of its golden worth and quality.

To one who does not at all pretend to have great grasp on ethnology it seems that Juba was just as much a "colored" man as many so-called Negroes of today. The quotation given below shows that its author, while rejecting the probability, admits the possibility of the Libyans' and Numidians' being non-white, i.e., "colored" people.

Under the caption, "Character of the Libyans" (ch. 1, p. 9 infra et sq.) in his book "Life and Letters in Roman Africa" (Oxford University Press—1913) E. S. Bouchier writes, "The Libyans were a tall blue-eyed race, with slight but powerful frames and fair hair, clearly closer akin to the Indo-European stock than either to the Bantu races to the south or to Phoenicians. They were monogamous, their women had a high position, and their communities were usually based on republican principles. . . . They had considerable aptitude for agriculture, and under the guidance of Masinissa the resources of Numidia were greatly developed by their means . . . they dwelling apart from the two civilized races (Greek and Roman), maintained unimpaired their language and alphabet, both probably of Aryan origin. . . .

"However mixed their origin, the Agricans possessed a natural spirit more strongly developed than other provincial peoples . . ."

Julius Caesar in his reorganization of the Roman world had made Numidia a province—Africa nova, under proconsular supervision. Sallust, the curly-headed historian, had served at the post for one term, "nominally," says one other historian, Dion, "to govern it, but in reality to ravage and plunder it"—an old Roman custom. Augustus handed it over to Juba II, the direct descendant of Masinissa. Juba when a lad had been taken a captive to Rome by Caesar who had signally defeated Juba I at Thapsus; and the boy had trailed the conqueror's triumphal chariot. Subsequent death might have been his fate had not his comeliness and evident intelligence attracted the eye of great Augustus who gave him into the gentle care of his sister Octavia, discarded wife of the ill-starred Antony. By literary and peaceful pursuits, young Juba became one of the savants of the times.

When Augustus gave him the Numidian throne, he also gave Selene, daughter of Antony and Cleopatra, in marriage. The capital of the kingdom was set up at an old Phoenician city renamed Julia Caesarea and now called by the Arabs Cherchel. During a prosperous rule of almost fifty years, in this city magnificently proportioned and beautified by Greek and Roman *objets d'art* he gathered about himself all the literary and artistic celebrities of his time, affording the swarthy tribes of northern Africa the delights of hitherto unknown elements of refinement.

His daughter, Drusilla, married Felix, governor of Judea, before whom Paul was summoned.

"Had Juba II lived in other times, his career would have entitled him to a far more conspicuous position, but the dazzling rule of the Caesars and the stirring events in other parts of the world at the dawn of the Christian era cast into the shade the unobtrusive labors of so peaceful a monarch, affording but few materials for the historian." In testimony of his popularity, the Athenians raised a statue in his honor and doughty tribes of the desert called him a god: *Et Juba, Mauris volentibus, dens est* (It is the Moors' wish that Juba be god).

Of his literary work mere fragments remain, but the Roman scholars Strabo and Pliny acknowledge the excellence of his researches and quote freely from his histories of Rome and Arabia, as well as from his other treatises.

On a lonely hill some ten miles from his capital stands a monument, now poised in impressive ruins, which he built to house his wife's and his own remains—"an enduring memorial of the most learned, if not the greatest, of Numidians."

EDITOR'S NOTE: The author has followed rather closely the text of his reference: Roman Africa, by Alexander Graham (Longmans Green and Co.—1902), ch. 2, p. 25, supra ad p. 27 supra.

Quarrel

By PAULI MURRAY

Two ants at bay
Upon the curved stem of an apple
Are not sufficient cause
To shake the tree.

From the Press of the Nation

Editorial of the Month

Evading the Law

The *Amsterdam News*, New York, N. Y.

THE setting up of a jim-crow, mushroom law school in St. Louis as a part of Lincoln University of Missouri is a direct affront to the Negro race and the Supreme Court which ruled last year in the Gaines case that the State of Missouri would have to admit Negroes to the law school at the University of Missouri or provide a law school equal to it. The jim-crow school is, as a matter of fact, a violation of the constitution, since it will not when opened be anywhere near as good as the state university law school.

The question is, will Missouri be permitted to get away with its avowed intention of violating the law of the land by setting up an inferior school for Negroes? Or will the Negroes in Missouri and elsewhere fight this brazen determination to keep Negro students from acquiring legal education equal to those given at the University of Missouri?

If the state is permitted to get away with its plan to set up an inferior law school for Negroes it will immediately become a pattern to which every Southern state will conform. And thus the decision in the Gaines case will be emasculated on the altar of prejudice and discrimination.

It was seen as soon as the Gaines decision was rendered that the Southern states would fight to the end any attempt of Negro students to enter graduate schools at their universities. It was also seen that these states would, as they have always done with regards to undergraduate schools, provide inferior graduate schools wherever they were forced to for Negroes. Because of this, it is mandatory to fight the deal the State of Missouri is pulling at the expense of the Negro citizens and in spite of the Supreme Court. A complete victory in the Gaines case will not be won until the Southern states are compelled to live up to the letter of the law. Any compromise is basically and legally wrong. . . .

When the World War ended 21 years ago, the American Negro returned to his native soil. He had been used as cannon fodder for four bitter years. Thousands were suffering from injuries which maimed them for life. Others had been gassed, there were many armless and legless. The Negro had served America in time of need WELL. Many thought that conditions would change in the South due to the fact that the Negro had fought side by side with his white Southern brother. Such was not the case, however. He was lynched just as he had been before; he was denied decent work and decent schools for his children. His sacrifice for a better understanding had been in vain.

Another war now looms. It is not the Negro's war. He has been shown that he is not considered a full American with equal opportunities. WHAT WILL HE BE FIGHTING FOR this time? To make the world safe for other nationalities and HELL for himself? . . . New Orleans, La., *Louisiana Weekly.*

Let those who think that colored people will benefit from the present conflagration in Europe remember what happened to them during the World War. . . .

The war will bring no permanent financial assistance to anybody, and it certainly will not help colored people to grow rich. . . . Philadelphia, Pa., *The Philadelphia Tribune.*

The statement has been made by many in authority that another world war would mean the end of the so-called "Nordic civilization." The converse of that argument is that it would mean the advance of the darker races—the Japanese, the peoples of India and Africa—into a larger place in world affairs. This would mean larger opportunity for the Negroes in this country and throughout the world. . . .

We are not wise enough to say whether war at this time is desirable or necessary but we do believe that should war come, the darker races will have in their hands unprecedented opportunities for advancement. . . . New York, N. Y., *The Age.*

If the United States is drawn in to the war, as it most likely will be, Negro Americans will be called upon to do their part, and will do it. They will fight for America, as they did in the last World War, but they will not fight with the same willingness, the same enthusiasm. The Negro has been disillusioned. His condition has been growing steadily worse since the last war. With that background the present generation will not fight for America with the same fervor that characterized their fathers. The identical disabilities the arrogant dictators of the totalitarian states impose upon certain of their peoples and upon smaller nations are imposed here in America upon Negroes as a racial group. The only difference is that the imposition is of lesser degree here in America. It does not have the sanction of Federal law. These repressions in America, do in many instances have the sanction of state laws. . . . Norfolk, Va., *Journal and Guide.*

President Roosevelt has officially declared the United States NEUTRAL in the current world war and citizens are admonished to MAINTAIN that neutrality in word and deed. . . .

Strict neutrality by the United States will amount to a SELF-EMBARGO and loss of war trade which will be reflected in a JOB SLUMP from which Negroes, as usual, will be the greatest SUFFERERS.

Supplying the Anglo-French allies with food, munitions and war resources will start a BUSINESS BOOM which will wipe out unemployment and soon place EVERY available man and woman on a PAYROLL.

Which the Negro voters overwhelmingly PREFER goes without saying. . . . Pittsburgh, Pa., *Courier.*

The black people of today, no less than those of 1860 and 1917, stand ready to defend America. Today, however, black America demands that the progressive and democratic people of our country shall stand ready to defend the blacks. America needs no second class citizens.

President Roosevelt calls for the unity of our nation around his program of neutrality. There can be no unity short of equality of opportunity for all. No people, such as black Americans, with years of struggle for equal rights as a background, can surrender that struggle for equality short of victory. . . . Chicago, Ill., *Chicago Defender.*

White Racialism in America

Thoughtful Jewish individuals and groups are perceiving that America must end its persecution of the Negro minority and that Jews must aid if it is to speak without hypocrisy on minority problems elsewhere. This editorial is reprinted from The Reconstructionist, organ of the Society for the Advancement of Judaism

A FORM of argument that, in logic, is recognized as a fallacy but, for practical purposes is often very effective, is the retort, *tu quoque* (you also). A party charged with an offense replies, not by denying the charge, but by making a similar charge against the accuser. Such an argument is employed by the Schwartze Korps, organ of the German secret police and Hitler's Elite Guard, in urging the segregation of Jews in "Jim Crow" cars on German railroads, including Jews of American citizenship. "This solution," states the Schwartze Korps, "follows a documented democratic example. For the world's freest country, where even presidents denounce the devilish invention of race consciousness, does not permit its State citizens with equal rights but a darker hue to sit, much less sleep, next to a white person, even if the white is only a sewage worker and the black a world boxing champion or other national hero. The colored people will be relentlessly driven by an equally colored conductor into their own rolling kraal."

The obvious answer to the *tu quoque* argument is that "two wrongs do not make one right." But we are not here concerned with answering the argument. In view of the other measures taken by the Nazis against the Jews, this measure, if put into effect, would be a mere pin prick, but, as Americans, we admit to smarting under this thrust of the Nazis. Their defense is no defense, but their accusation is a valid indictment. Racialism is wrong whether it be an Aryan racialism directed against Jews or a white racialism directed against Negroes. Now that America has assumed the role of champion of democracy and the equal rights of all citizens, it is high time that we put our own house in order and wipe out every last vestige of anti-Negro discrimination, which is a heritage from slavery days.

The recent decision by the Supreme Court demanding the admission of a qualified Negro applicant to the law college of one of our southern states, although that state was willing to pay for his instruction in a Negro college of another state, is a happy indication of a reluctance on the part of our highest tribunal to resort to subterfuge in contravention of the legal rights of the Negro.

Another happy augury is the open advocacy by Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of the President of the United States, of the passage by Congress of an anti-lynching law. True, such a bill would not be directed exclusively against the lynching of Negroes. The evil that it attacks is that of mob-violence in general, whether that violence proceeds from race hatred or from other motives, but the circumstance which primarily makes such a law necessary is the fact that, unless lynching is made a federal offense, the white-dominated communities of some of our states can easily nullify the legal safeguards of equality contained in the federal constitution by condoning acts of violence against Negroes when conducted by white mobs. They not only can do so, but they have done so time and again.

The Jewish stake in removing the blot of white racialism from American life is clear. Both self-interest and our holiest traditions demand our making common cause with the Negro in his fight for equality of status with the white. We, too, are a minority group and the tendency of dominant majorities to secure for themselves in hard times all the strategic economic positions affects us and the Negro in identical ways. Every totalitarian American movement, like the Ku Klux Klan, is bound to be directed against Negroes, Jews and Catholics. But as religious Jews we appeal to our fellow-Jews on higher grounds than Jewish self-interest. "Ye shall remember that ye were slaves in the land of Egypt." White racialism is the rationalization with which it is sought to justify the permanent enslavement of the Negro in contravention of those rights which the constitutional amendments adopted after the Civil War guarantee him.

In this purpose all Americans who cherish American democracy and are sincere in their devotion to the declaration of the equal rights of all men "to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" will be with us. Europe is a warning to us. If the injustices inflicted upon Jews in Germany will arouse the conscience of America to do justice to the Negro racial minority, it will be some consolation to us Jews. We shall at least have the satisfaction of feeling that we are, to some extent, performing the traditional role of the "servant of the Lord," that our suffering is, in some measure an expiation for the sins of the world, that "by *our* stripes" others are healed.

Head of a Child, by Grace Mott Johnson

Paul Robeson as "John Henry"

Rehearsals will begin October 16, for the production of Roark Bradford's and Jacques Wolfe's "John Henry" in which Paul Robeson will play the title role. The Broadway premiere is definitely set for Wednesday evening, December 27, according to Sam Byrd, the producer.

Ablest Lawyer

Lawyers who attended the great trial in Waterbury which ended in August with the conviction of the Mayor and nineteen others, declared that the ablest lawyer for the defense and the most eloquent man in the entire case, was George W. Crawford, the Negro attorney of New Haven.

Kansas Farmer

Most of the talk about Negro farmers, renters and sharecroppers has had to do with the South. The fact that the North and West has Negro farm families is often overlooked. Here is an inspiring short story of a Kansas family

WHEN history is written about agricultural recovery in Jefferson county, Kansas, names and every-day accomplishments of such men and women as Mr. and Mrs. William Henry Bell, Jr., will be reckoned with.

These worthy folks rent and operate a 200-acre farm a couple of miles south of Oskaloosa. They have raised a family and have brushed elbows with drouths and depressions. They know from first-hand experience what damage grasshoppers can do. Experience has taught them that the first requisite of security living on their farm is to raise that security themselves. They know that every penny's worth of subsistence living which they can produce themselves cuts just that much from the list of groceries they would otherwise have to buy.

Determination is one of the qualities of the Bells. Not so many years ago this couple, with their family, were on the verge of being forced off their farm to look for work that was mighty hard to get, or to accept direct relief. Here's where determination came into the picture; for they were determined not to become public charges. They were determined to justify the fine respect they enjoyed from their neighbors, many of whom were more or less in the same boat.

They had read of the rehabilitation program of loans made to farmers for the sole purpose of helping farmers to help themselves. This appealed to them just as it appealed to virtually all worthy farmers who wanted to fight their own way back to security. After a family conference, Mr. and Mrs. Bell went to see the county rehabilitation supervisor of the Farm Security Administration. In 1937 they borrowed an emergency amount of $85 to get them past the spring planting season. In 1938 they were ready for a standard loan. In April—just about a year ago—they went again to the county RR supervisor. Together, they planned a sound farm enterprise, featuring diversification, intelligent crop rotation, livestock and poultry, and, among other things, a good garden. They obtained a standard loan for $840, bringing the total borrowed up to $925.

They have repaid $83.05 of the amount with production the first year. But the main thing is that they have now the livestock and equipment to make their farm keep on paying them and repaying the loan. Before they obtained their loan and before they replanned and reorganized their farming set-up, they possessed two old horses, five cows and three hogs. These were mortgaged to a local bank. They had the willingness to work—but not much hopes of getting ahead. Now they have seven cows, two heifers, three young horses and thirteen hogs. They have the same old willingness to work—and in addition they have bright hopes of getting ahead.

"We're proud to be whipping 'Old Man Depression' this way," said Mr. Bell. "But don't give me all the credit. My wife deserves it, too. Without her help, we'd have been sunk. Say, I want her to show you a good reason—a lot of good reasons—why we won't be hungry."

Then Mrs. Bell led the way to the farm cellar where shelf after shelf was loaded down with canned vegetables and fruit.

"But didn't you folks have grasshoppers? This looks as though you had a most favorable garden season," was the visitor's comment.

"Sure," replied Bell. "We had grasshoppers. And the garden wouldn't have grown without a lot of hard work and planning by Mrs. Bell. Our boy, Edward, helped a lot, too; and so did I. But, man, it's plenty worth the work."

It is the opinion of Roy Appleton, FSA county supervisor, that the Bells are on their way to actual rehabilitation, and that they will remain valued members of the community.

Runs for Council

Frank Crosswaith, veteran trade unionist and chairman of the Negro Labor Committee, was nominated August 15 by the American Labor Party for the New York City council. Mr. Crosswaith will be one of the two A.L.P. Manhattan candidates.

Finer Womanhood week closed all over the United States with sermons by prominent ministers paying tribute to Negro womanhood.

INSURE IN NEGRO COMPANIES

See Inside Back Cover

Additional Graduates

Notice of the following 1939 college graduates was received too late for the Educational Number.

ARCHIE W. McKINNEY, LL.B.

University of Denver

Archie Williard McKinney, LL.B., Law School of the University of Denver. He is the first Negro to graduate from this school.

Carol Blanche Cotton, Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Chicago.

William Lawless Jones, M.A., University of Michigan.

The following are graduates with L.L.B. degrees from the Robert H. Terrell Law School, Washington, D. C.: Calvin Meredith Lee, Jasper B. Duncan (B.S.), Cato Suggs, William S. Thompson, William H. Smith, Joseph Johnson, Elizabeth B. Briggs, Marjorie McKenzie (B.A.), Genevia Davis, George Colbert, Leon R. Deville.

M.S. in Business

Miss Ruth Taylor, graduate of Hampton Institute in the class of 1933, received the master's degree in business administration from New York university on June 7, 1939. Miss Taylor was informed by the university that she had received the fourth master's degree in personnel administration granted by the graduate school of business administration. Before studying at New York university, Miss Taylor worked at State College, Orangesburg, S. C., and at Howard university, Washington, D. C. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Taylor, 513 S. Ripley Street, Montgomery, Ala.

Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

The Cranbury Case

Under the leadership of Dr. D. W. Anthony, state president of the New Jersey N.A.A.C.P. and also president of the Princeton branch, prompt action was taken immediately following white mob action at Cranbury, N. J., on August 11, when seven Negro potato pickers, migratory workers from the South, were taken from their shacks and stripped, beaten and threatened.

An immediate probe was instituted by Dr. Anthony whereupon the National Office dispatched a special investigator to collect further information. This investigator uncovered the most sordid conditions of exploitation similar to those on Southern plantations and in rural California. Not only were these hapless migratory workers terrorized by pistol shots in the dead of the night but they were routed from their beds, chased across fields and, in the case of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Preston, were disrobed forcibly and painted with white enamel. All were severely beaten with rubber hose.

Following vigorous appeals to Governor A. Harry Moore, the New Jersey State Police got busy and ten local white persons, including a 15-year-old white boy of Brooklyn, N. Y., were arrested on August 26, charged with assault. The nine adults were released on $250 bail and the white boy released in custody of his uncle. The low bail was protested by the N.A.A.C.P. On September 16 a conference was held at Far Hills, N. J., to outline a program of action. The accused men pleaded guilty and await sentence this month.

The Association is determined to fight this case vigorously.

Labor Union Jim-Crow

N.A.A.C.P. insistence forced William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, late in August, to investigate the jim-crow tactics of A. F. of L. construction unions at the Tampa, Fla., shipyard which led to the "freezing out" of 500 pioneer Negro union members from their jobs. The Tampa shipyard has more than $9,000,000 in government shipbuilding contracts.

An investigation by Secretary Walter White of the Tampa situation disclosed that the two unions which have organized the shipyard have either forced the Negro workers into a jim-crow unit or barred them from membership entirely, despite the fact that the Negro workers did the spade work in organizing the plant. Before the signing of the closed shop agreement Negroes occupied half of the 1,200 skilled and unskilled jobs. Afterward they held only two skilled and 116 unskilled jobs. The U. S. Maritime Commission claims that it has no power to act in the situation. Local 1207 of the International Hod Carriers, Building and Common Laborers Union of America, the organization with the jim-crow unit, is seeking to drop its Negro members entirely. The International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America has barred Negro members entirely.

A. F. of L. president William Green has promised to "take it up with the officers of the Building and Construction Trades Department and will endeavor to have it investigated and adjusted if it is possible to do so."

Educational Equality Fight

First move in the renewed fight of the Association for educational equality was the filing of application to graduate schools in three states by eight states by eight colored persons.

P. L. Smith and Joseph Michael applied for law courses, Clinton Marsh for sociology, Homer L. Saunders for education and Henry Totten and Ealter S. E. Hardy for chemistry at the University of Tennessee.

Miss Lucille Bluford applied for the journalism course at the University of Missouri. And William Murphy applied for the law course at the University of Maryland.

Prof. L. A. Ransom of the Howard University Law Schools and a member of the NAACP national legal committee will handle the University of Tennessee cases, aided by the Nashville law firm of Cowan and Looby.

Charles H. Houston, NAACP spe-

POSTAL EMPLOYEES GIVE N.A.A.C.P. $100.00

At the August 17, 1939 convention of the National Alliance of Postal Employees in Chicago, Ill., a check for $100.00 was handed to Director of Branches William Pickens for the N.A.A.C.P. Left to right are: Alvin W. Bryan, Atlanta, Ga., Vice President, N.A.P.E.; Snow F. Grigsby, Detroit, Mich., Chairman, Detroit Civic Rights Committee; Lafayette F. Ford, St. Louis, Mo., President, N.A.P.E.; Dean William Pickens, Director of Branches, N.A.A.C.P.; G. N. T. Gray, Washington, D. C., Welfare Director, N.A.P.E.; Archie L. Weaver, Chicago, Ill.; Robert E. L. Hutton, New Orleans, La., Treasurer, N.A.P.E.; Atty. Thomas P. Bomar, Washington, D. C., Secretary, N.A.P.E.; Atty. Ralph E. Mizelle, Washington, D. C., Solicitor's Office; Percy R. Hines, Chicago, Ill., Editor, The Postal Alliance, official organ, N.A.P.E.

cial counsel will handle Miss Bluford's case at the University of Missouri.

Thurgood Marshall, special NAACP legal counsel will handle the case of William Murphy involving the University of Maryland.

In 1935, it will be recalled, the Association won a victory at the hands of the state Supreme Court of Maryland in the Murray case. Murray was admitted and was graduated in June 1938.

William H. Hastie, dean of Howard University Law School and Edward P. Lovett, connected with the U. S. Housing Administration will be associated with the N.A.A.C.P. defense of these cases.

Branch News

California: A mass meeting was sponsored by the defense committee of the Pasadena Branch at Friendship Baptist Church, Thursday evening, August 3. The public was invited to participate in a forum discussion and to hear Mrs. Betty Hill, of Los Angeles, Mr. Thomas L. Griffith, Atty. A. L. Wirin, and Rev. W. D. Carter.

A meeting was held August 10 under the auspices of the Salinas Committee, for the purpose of instituting a branch of the NAACP in that community. Mr. William Greenwell is chairman of the committee.

The San Diego Branch held its meeting Sunday, July 23, at Bethel Baptist Church. The public was invited to participate in an open forum.

Connecticut: Dr. Allen F. Jackson, president of the Hartford Branch, and Mrs. Lelia Alexander of Waterbury, were appointed by Governor Baldwin to represent the State of Connecticut at an Eastern States Conference on Negro Unemployment, held in Boston, September 23.

Delaware: The regular monthly meeting of the Wilmington Branch was held August 1, on the campus of the Industrial School for colored girls, Marshallton. Fall plans were discussed. Rev. Arthur James, president of the branch presided, and Mrs. Arthur Reed, Jr., chairman of the membership campaign, spoke. The branch is preparing a protest to the State Legislature against the defeat of the McGuigan resolution, urging the appropriation of funds to provide a new building for the Edgewood Sanitarium.

District of Columbia: The Washington, D. C. branch sponsored a moonlight cruise August 30.

Illinois: The Decatur Branch held its July meeting at the Trinity Colored Methodist Church. Reports from the recent national NAACP Conference in Virginia were read.

The regular monthly August meeting of the Moline Branch was held at Wayman A.M.E. Church. Rev. McWhorter addressed the gathering.

Indiana: A meeting of the Jeffersonville Branch was held July 28, at the Odd Fellows Hall. Important business matters were discussed.

Massachusetts: Miss Mildred Jenkins, Boston lyric soprano, who gave a recital under the auspices of the New Bedford Branch last May, was heard August 27 over a national hook-up of the Mutual Broadcasting Company chain from station WLW, Cincinnati, Ohio.

New Mexico: The Albuquerque branch held a mass meeting Sunday afternoon, August 13, at the Mt. Olive Baptist Church.

Iowa: The Ottumwa Branch sponsored a picnic in the old Leighton section of Wildwood Park on Labor Day. Representatives were present from Centerville, Fairfield, Albia, Oskaloosa, Burlington, and Ottumwa. Several worthy sports events were held. Roy Winston is president, and Clarence Patton is secretary of the branch.

A number of churches, clubs and lodges cooperated with the Waterloo Branch in sponsoring the seventy-sixth anniversary celebration of the Emancipation Proclamation, Monday afternoon and evening, August 7. Sports events, a picnic dinner and dancing made up the major portion of the celebration, which was held at Electric Park. Waterloo merchants contributed merchandise valued at $125 to be given as prizes in the afternoon contests.

New York: The Albany Branch was co-sponsor of the annual reception given for the Albany graduates, June 28, at the B.T.W. Community Center. Sets of Negro books were presented to three college graduates and the high school student making the highest rating.

The New Rochelle Branch made a proposal to the City Council that the name of Clinton Avenue be changed to Carver Avenue, in honor of Dr. G. W. Carver, director of agricultural research at Tuskegee Institute.

A meeting of the Ossining branch was held August 22, in St. Mathews Church. Many important business matters were discussed. A permanent investigating committee, headed by Harold Wood, was named to investigate books in the public library, to ascertain if they contain anti-Negro propaganda.

The Peekskill Branch sent a letter to the Village Board of Trustees, acknowledging the appointment of Stanley Peterson as the first Negro election inspector in Peekskill. Chester A. Smith has been selected as honorary president of the local branch, and Miss Edly Mae Jackson has been elected branch secretary, to succeed Miss Sereta Wortham; Miss Mamie Fields is assistant secretary.

Ohio: The Akron Branch sponsored its second annual outdoor musicale on Sunday afternoon, August 20, at Perkins Woods. A delightful musical program was rendered and several commendable addresses made by outstanding members of the community.

The annual public session of the Canton Branch was held August 7, in St. Paul's A.M.E. Church. Hosea Linsay, president of the Akron branch was principal speaker. Reports on the recent conference at Richmond were given by T. M. Fletcher of Akron and A. A. Andrews of Canton.

Rev. Grant Reynolds, president of the Cleveland Branch, wrote a letter of protest to the Ohio State University Board of Trustees, condemning the fact that no action had been taken against the University Anti-Negro Guild, in its investigation of alleged subversive activities on the university campus. Dr. Reynolds stated that such an organization "is a threat and an insult to Ohio's Negro citizens."

The Warren Branch held a special meeting, July 31, at the Warren Urban League Center, at which time important changes were made in the branch's list of committee chairmen.

Rhode Island: 81 new members were enrolled by the Newport Branch during its recent membership campaign. Awards for the largest number of subscriptions were presented to Lyle E. Matthews, branch president, and Leroy Williams, a former president.

South Carolina: The Aiken Branch is acting as sponsor of the local NYA Resident Center project which is giving formal training to girls, in all branches of domestic science.

West Virginia: A large audience gathered to hear the Rev. A. B. Adams, president of the Warren, O., branch, speak on July 26 at the Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Fairmont.

Virginia: The Hopewell Branch held its regular monthly meeting on August 3, in the Davis Hall, Dreamland Park.

Texas: The Rev. Spurgeon Jay Mayfield, president of the Corpus Christi Branch, resigned as pastor of the First Congregational Christian Church, August 13, to accept the call of the Gregory Community Church of Wilmington, N. C. Rev. Mayfield left

September 10 to take up his new duties.

Houston delegates to the thirtieth annual NAACP conference at Richmond, made their reports to the local branch at a mass meeting at the Good Hope Baptist Church, August 2. The executive committee of the Houston branch adopted a resolution recently, stating that it has not committed itself to the support of Vice President John N. Garner, for President.

N.B.A. Resolutions

The National Bar Association in its 15th annual meeting in New York City, passed the following resolutions on August 19, 1939:

1. That a special committee explore possibilities of proffering fellowship and affiliation to Negro lawyers in foreign lands.
2. Urging removal of color, religious, racial, sexual or social barriers to membership in all national and local bar associations.
3. Urging appointment of Negroes to federal judgeships within the territorial confines of the U. S., and exclusion of anti-democratic persons from such offices.
4. Supporting the fight for educational equality for Negroes and condemning compromise acceptances of inadequate substitutes.
5. Seeking inclusion of domestics and farm workers in benefits of social security legislation.
6. Deploring intra-labor struggles, urging encouragement of Negro enrollment in "fair" labor unions, and urging amendment of Wagner Labor Act to prevent racial discrimination.
7. Applauding decision of U. S. Supreme Court in the Hague case and urging its study by membership for possible use in protecting civil rights of Negroes.
8. Urging passage of an Anti-Lynching Bill by the next Congress.
9. Condemnation of un-American propaganda designed to stir up discrimination and prejudice based on race, creed or color.

Child Composer Televises

On August 25, 1939, Philippa Duke Schuyler, eight-year-old Harlem pianist-composer, had the distinction of being the first American child to play one of her own compositions on a television broadcast. Over the National Broadcasting Company's Station W2XBS, New York City, she played her forty-ninth composition "The Circus." As an encore she played "The Little White Donkey" by Jacques Ibert.

Youth Council News

The William H. Anderson Case

The courage of a 19-year-old Negro youth plus the militant cooperation of unfrightened Negro citizens backed by the Greenville, S. C., N. A. A. C. P. and its youth council has again placed squarely before the country the terroristic methods used in the South to deny Negroes the ballot.

The youth, William H. Anderson, president of the Greenville youth council, is janitor of the white Junior high school. Last July he was arrested on complaint of a white woman that someone at the high school had tried to "date" her daughter over the telephone. Three white boys who had asked Anderson to let them use the telephone a short time before were doubtless the guilty parties, but there is good reason to believe that the whole thing was a frame-up to "get" Anderson. The detective who arrested him said: "You're the kind of Negro I would rather kill than take to jail and when we get through with you, you will not be able to use a telephone."

On July 24, William Anderson was convicted on two charges, breach of peace and disorderly conduct after the jury had deliberated four hours. He was put under a $5,000 peace bond and sentenced to serve thirty days or pay $100 fine. The trial was held behind locked doors. Young Anderson succeeded in getting liberated on $1,200 bail and an appeal is pending. A defense attorney and the bond was secured by Prof. J. A. Brier, president of the Greenville branch.

What's Really Behind It

Behind the arrest and conviction of young Anderson was the desire of Ku Klux Klan to halt efforts of Anderson and his associates in the youth council to have Negroes register to vote in the September primaries.

These efforts aroused the Ku Klux Klan elements in the city. The Klan issued a call to "defend white supremacy" and carried advertisements to that effect in the local newspapers. Streamer headlines further inflamed the reactionary whites. To "save" the situation a blow had to be struck which would terrorize the Negroes and keep them from registering. What more effective blow could be struck than to discredit the young leader of the Negroes? What more effective way to warn Negroes that they must not attempt to escape from political slavery? What better device could be used than the charge of attempted association with a white girl?

Mr. Anderson

Prof. Brier

Call to Arms

Under the leadership of Professor Brier, the Greenville branch, youth council and militant Negro citizens of the community immediately rallied behind young Anderson. The National Office promptly backed up the fight and at its insistence the U. S. Department of Justice investigated the Greenville situation although maintaining that it could not act because the election for which the registration was held was purely local.

Money is urgently needed to fight this case to a finish. Not only must William H. Anderson be vindicated but this arrogant challenge to the constitutional rights of our people must be forcefully met.

Youth Councils have been urged to send letters demanding action to the Civil Liberties division of the Department of Justice.

The Negroes of Greenville have continued to register despite Ku Klux Klan terrorism. The Negroes of the country must back them financially and spiritually.

Greenville, S. C., must be made safe for democracy.

Detroit Holds Leadership Training Institute

The first annual Leadership Training Institute, to acquaint executives of youth councils with their duties and to develop new techniques for fall and winter programs, was held at Great Lakes Country Club recently. The Institute, sponsored

by the Detroit Central Youth Councils, enrolled 36 delegates, chaperons and workers for its two-day session. Group discussions on membership, education, finance, publicity, program and entertainment were held. Diversion from conference routine was had by swimming, boating and fishing.

Youngstown Makes Annual Report

The Youngstown, Ohio, youth council submitted a splendid report of activities for the past year to the national office. Outstanding features were the All-City Wide Youth Conference at which 26 organizations were represented; an autumn tea, Hallowe'en party; James Weldon Johnson Memorial Service; Radio Popularity Contest, and Penny Carnival.

Columbus Launches Anderson Defense

Pledging every ounce of its financial and moral support, the Columbus, Ohio, youth council, under its president, Marion Bannister, launched a city-wide drive for funds for the defense of William H. Anderson. In a statement to the Ohio State News, a spokesman for the council said, "This case is important to the youth council not only because Mr. Anderson is an officer of one of our youth councils, but also because it is an important test of our determination to carry through the objective outlined at our recent conference in regard to the further participation in and exercise of the right to vote."

Seguin, Texas Council Chartered

A charter was granted by the Board of Directors of the N.A.A.C.P. to the newly organized Seguin (Guadalupe County Branch), Texas, youth council. The officers for the ensuing year are: George Williams, president; Marjorie Campbell, vice-president; Jimmie E. Rucker, secretary; Harry V. Burns, financial secretary; Sarah Fennell, treasurer; Ernest Collins, parliamentarian; Dr. C. B. Friday, senior adviser.

Since its organization, the Seguin council has forged right ahead in making itself felt in the community. Formal installation of officers was held, as well as a Barnyard Party for the purpose of raising funds.

On August 25, the council journeyed to the nearby city of San Marcas, to participate in a program sponsored by an organization of Baptist youth.

Seguin Negro Business Week was inaugurated September 3–9 for the purpose of stimulating interest, increasing sales, changing prevailing attitudes toward Negro business on the part of Negroes, and fostering cooperation among Negro business men.

Youth Rally to Anderson's Aid

In response to the urgent appeal sent out to youth councils throughout the country, encouraging reports have been received. To date, contributions have been received from youth councils in Richmond, Va.; San Antonio, Texas; Decatur, Ill.; Swarthmore, Pa.; Jackson, Miss.; Baldwin, Mich.; Springfield, Mass. Pledges have been received from Mobile, Ala., Boston, Mass., Detroit, Mich., Jersey City, N. J. and Columbus, Ohio.

In a plea to the youth councils, Rev. James H. Robinson, Acting Youth Director said: "Let us prove that youth are interested in the struggle for Negro rights; that youth can and will work hard and even make sacrifices to obtain the ends of political justice, no matter how great the obstacles. Let each council make some contribution . . . towards the $500 which it is necessary for us to raise. Here is an opportunity for the youth of the N.A.A.C.P. to establish once and for all their interest, ability and their worth.

A reply from William Anderson says in part: "To the members of the youth councils who are working and rallying to my support, I want to express my appreciation for their efforts both spiritually and financially, and I hope that what we may achieve together in this case will be successful in tearing down the flimsy spirit which prohibits citizens here in the Southland and elsewhere the right to be full fledged citizens. My council is at my side one hundred per cent; also, the Greenville Branch of the N.A.A.C.P. is working in my behalf. You may rest assured that despite the difficulty, I will always be race conscious and fight to the end for its benefits. I will never surrender!"

Youth Recommends

Saturday morning, July 1, at the recent Richmond Conference of the Association, brought to a close five days of serious thinking on the part of Negro youth on the economic and social problems vitally affecting them. Their thought is reflected in the recommendations to the Board of Directors which follow:

1. That a Secretary of Youth Work, to develop and carry out the Youth Program of the Association, be appointed by the fall of 1939; and that he or she be designated as such on our literature and on our stationery.

2. That a youth be elected to the National Board of Directors at the next election, to represent the Youth Councils and college chapters.

3. That the Board set aside sufficient funds for youth literature to be used to guide youth councils and college chapters in organization, building and developing of program, financing the Association's work, in conducting membership campaigns, and in developing multiple councils in large urban centers.

4. That a mid-winter week-end conference be planned and held in one of the southern colleges for our college chapters, since these groups find it impossible to be represented in our annual meeting by virtue of the fact that the colleges are closed by the end of June. If such an experiment is successful, another such meeting should be added next year in the southwest or some other suitable section of the nation.

5. That youth councils in various areas of the nation hold regional meetings between this and the next conference; to discuss and develop plans of action on the problems of their vicinities; to devise ways and means to implement the decisions of the annual conference, and stimulate action on the resolutions; to criticize and develop youth programs and prepare suggestions for the next annual conference.

6. That the youth councils and college chapters continue the nationwide series of youth mass meetings against educational irregularities during American Education Week (Nov. 5–11, 1939). That all money raised by the youth councils be sent to the national office for the support of the drive against educational irregularities.

7. That the youth councils and college chapters continue their cooperation; (a) in the observance of National Negro History Week (February, 1940) and cooperate with the National Urban League in its Vocational Opportunities campaign (March 17–24, 1940). In connection with the latter, the conference urges that all branches initiate or cooperate with other organizations and support job opportunity campaigns.

8. That the youth councils continue to support the association's fight for federal anti-lynching legislation. Especially does the conference urge that the councils and college chapters study and work to remove the social and economic causes of lynching.

9. That the councils study carefully and work for state and national youth legislation. That they further oppose all racial injustices and discriminations in the enactment and administration of youth legislation which militate against Negro youth.

10. That the youth of the N.A.A.C.P. give its undivided support to the national program of the Association, and cooperate fully with the senior branches on local problems.

Recommendations to the Annual Conference Committee

1. That the Committee include more time for the report of local youth councils.

2. That greater opportunity be given for delegates' discussion of various problems.

3. That more time be allotted for the study and discussion of youth council programs.

The ever-increasing interest and activity in the youth section of each conference is, to say the least, encouraging. It gives hope to those who have borne the brunt of the burden these thirty years that the principals and high ideals which they have upheld will not be trampled under foot by a new and heedless generation, but held aloft like a flaming torch as the youth of the Association bravely face the future.

Distinguished Soldier

(*Continued from page* 306)

Miles, "Buffalo Bill" Cody, and Presidents Harrison, McKinley, Grant, Theodore Roosevelt, and Woodrow Wilson. He was a delegate from Kansas to the Philadelphia Republican national convention in 1899 when Roosevelt was nominated for vice-president.

Born November 23, 1847, near Alexandria, Va., where his father was a free man owning his own farm, the deceased was baptized in the same church in which President George Washington had worshiped. His grandfather, when a lad, was a personal attendant of General Washington, later becoming carpenter, wheelwright and overseer of the house servants at Mount Vernon.

He was a member of the Eastern Star lodge, a Thirty-Third degree Mason, a member of the Spanish-American War Veterans encampment, and for years was senior warden at St. Luke's Episcopal church in Springfield.

He is survived by his wife, Hattie E., whom he married at Beaufort, S. C., in 1879, and by three sons, three daughters, one sister, eight grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Cranbury Case

(*Continued from page* 296)

most of the way but saw no one en route. Arriving out of breath at the farmhouse he soon aroused his employer and told him what had occurred. After hearing Holmes' story Dey telephoned the New Jersey State Police stationed at Hightstown about four miles away. Shortly afterwards these state officers under the command of Corporal E. O. Netterman, arrived at the shanty to begin an investigation of the crime.

Prestons Painted

But what had become of Jake Preston and his wife, Frances? When the masked men ordered the five colored farm hands to "git on back South," etc., and the latter disappeared the Prestons were escorted to the parked cars of the mobsters and made to enter the rear seat of a small sedan. According to Preston, he and his wife were the sole occupants of the back seat of the car in which they rode. They were made to sit with their bodies bent extremely forward so that their heads rested on their bare knees. They were yet nude and their hands still taped behind their backs. The other persons, in the car with the Prestons, were two white men, one of whom drove the car. Both these men talked freely and made no attempt to change the tones of their voices. Often, as they drove along they asked the Prestons several questions which the latter answered in a noncommittal way. The car had been traveling in a more or less straight course all along when it suddenly veered sharply to the left. Preston realized at once that they had arrived at the junction of the Hightstown road and the Old Trenton road to form Main Street at the south end of Cranbury. He was certain of his whereabouts now for he had walked around this bend of the road several times on his trips to that town from the Dey farm. A little later on the car ran into a bank of fog, which Preston knew arose from the artificial lake about two squares up from the bifurcation of Main Street. As the motor cavalcade came to the viaduct at the edge of this lake the driver of the victims' car stopped it and said: "Whatta you say we tie 'em up here at the lake?" His companion replied: "Naw! I know a better place to take 'em, keep going." The sedan moved forward once more. The Prestons, looking out the corners of their eyes, saw passing street lights overhead and knew they were traveling down Main Street in Cranbury. After proceeding straight ahead for a few blocks the car turned off into another paved road. Preston, raising his head slightly, saw as he did first a garage and then a lunch place, made in the shape of a large aeroplane, slowly glide by. (This garage and "aeroplane diner" are located just outside the northern limits of Cranbury and both are doing business today.) Not many minutes later the car turned sharply into a dirt road for the ride was much rougher now as the small sedan bounced over its uneven surface. Finally the car leaned to one side and after a few hard bumps came to a halt. The masked men in the front seat climbed out and opening the rear door of the sedan ordered the Prestons to get out. Both obeyed quickly. The four automobiles were still in the group. Preston told me that he was not afraid at any time during the entire ordeal, but Mrs. Preston stated openly that she was "terribly scared." From the car the colored man and wife were taken into an oats field, the grain having recently been cut. There they were made to lie down on their backs but then were commanded immediately to stand up again. While they stood there the adhesive bonds were removed from their wrists. After doing this cans of white enamel paint were produced and two of the mobsters, with pieces of rubber hose as brushes, attempted to smear the two Negroes with the fast drying paint. Mrs. Preston stated that she and Jake were standing erect when the paint was applied. She also admitted that only one of the masked men made a remark about raping her, but the apparent leader of the gang replied: "We don't want any parts of 'em; we want 'em to git on back South and git quick." Not making much progress with their "make shift" paint brushes the masked men hurled them aside and dashed the paint on the Prestons directly from the cans. No attempt was made to throw the enamel into their faces, although there was a large spot of the paint on Mrs. Preston's left cheek when she returned later to the shanty. The lower portions of their bodies were thoroughly covered with the paint which caused severe suffering to both, and especially to Mrs. Preston. When the paint cans were emptied Jake and his wife were taken in the direction of the Cranbury trash dump and there made to jump over a deep ditch about five feet wide. When they jumped to the opposite side of this gully they were told to "git the hell on back South now and never come back." With that remark the mobsters returned to their cars and drove towards the town of Cranbury.

Taken to Hospital

The Prestons now alone tried to rub the paint from their bodies but had no success as the enamel was drying fast. They decided to go back to their shanty for clothes, feeling certain they would not be bothered any more that night. So they set off through the open fields to accomplish that purpose. They did this purposely to avoid the roads as they did not wish to be seen traveling nude on the highways. They had gone through several fields when fortunately they came upon some empty gunny sacks, into which picked potatoes are usually placed. These they hastily threw about their naked and painted bodies. With these crude garments Jake and his wife proceeded to a small road, which led them to Cranbury once more. In that town they came to a road sign from which they got their bearings and learned the direction to their cabin. Going through the rural community by its back ways the Prestons came out on Main Street just before it forked into the two roads described at the beginning of this story. Travelling as fast as they

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LEGAL DIRECTORY

could go they took the Old Trenton road, eventually passed the Dey farmhouse and finally reached their shanty without further trouble. When they arrived at the shack the State Troopers were yet there. Seeing the conditions of Preston and his wife the troopers took them at once to the Middlesex hospital in New Brunswick, where the paint was removed from their bodies, and they were given necessary treatment. They were sent back to their shanty but advised to return the next day for further treatment and observation.

All the incidents described took place from late on the night of August 11, 1939 to about dawn the following day. What results have been accomplished by the investigations of this crime? The New Jersey State Police arrested ten white boys and men, 15 to 23 years of age, for this assault-kidnap and they were arraigned before the Grand Jury which convened in Middlesex County on August 15, 1939 at New Brunswick, N. J.

On September 15, 1939 the nine men, who had been out on bail of $250.00, pleaded no defense. The judge deferred their sentencing until some time this month.

Fraternities

(*Continued from page* 302)

cial week celebrations through scholarship programs to contributions to the work of worthy organizations should continue to flourish in the side show; but a constructive program with vision and originality should occupy the rings of the main tent if some great new scene is ever to be created for Negro life.

Since we have covered the background problems of the nature of the denunciations of the Greek letter societies, what they have done to offset these animadversions, and evolved a principle by which we can measure the importance of their activities, we can now make some suggestions concerning the next step in an enlarged program. For the deductions made so far impose the larger task of ascertaining what fraternities and sororities can do which is significant and at the same time rid them of the implication of being imitative or at best merely cooperative.

A further inference from the celebrations, observances, and programs of the fraternities and sororities reveals the fact that they are largely concerned with education, business, and health, with character and ideals as important by-products. The question, then, is what can they do in these fields that would be both worthwhile and unique? Obviously they should not found a school and hold conventional classes for that would be duplicating the work of our schools and colleges. From the same point of view they should not focus on teacher problems and methods for we have general as well as specific teacher and subject associations. Still further sponsoring the ordinary capitalistic business should not interest them because The National Negro Business League was founded very largely for that purpose; and if it is not functioning successfully, it should be impelled into activity. The same thing should be said about the *conventional* hospital and health work. With these and related subjects discarded, however, there are still areas in education, business, and possibly health, in which the Pan-Hellenic groups can make a distinctive contribution. No exhaustive list can be given; but a few will serve for suggestions.

Pan-Hellenic Bureau

The first idea that occurs is the formation of a Pan-Hellenic Bureau of Artists and Thinkers. Each sorority and fraternity has its outstanding artists and scholars who have spent considerable money and many years in acquiring their training. They emerge from this expensive and trying period to face a precarious market for their wares. A sporadic engagement here and there makes life for them very discouraging. What could be a better project than to form local Pan-Hellenic Councils in every city and large town in the country and organize them into a circuit. Selected artists and speakers could then be routed over this chain. In this way the National Pan-Hellenic Council could give these young artists and thinkers a start as well as many weeks of profitable employment. Since sororities, and fraternities are interested in education and culture, what better method could they adopt of spreading it around that would not be a duplication of the already existing school and educational programs?

Another enterprise worthy of consideration would be the formation and active support of a Pan-Hellenic Book Club. This club could be patented after the various Book-of-the-Month clubs. Acting on the assumption that a publisher would publish a book if there is a guaranteed sale of 1,000 copies, this would simply mean that each one of the eight oldest Greek letter organizations would be responsible for a minimum of 125 of its members purchasing a book. If the other groups participate this number would be considerably reduced. It is not necessary, of course, for books to be published each month. Once a year or twice a year would be sufficient to start. The writer knows many persons in each of the groups who belong to one of the white book guilds and purchase many books a year. Surely they could extend their purchasing power to one or two Negro books a year under a similar plan.

Such a book project as this would do three important things: First, it would do in the contemporary field what The Association for the Study of Negro Life and History is now doing successfully in the historical field, that is, it would make us acquainted with the literary and scientific achievements of contemporary Negroes. Secondly, it would free Negro writers from the necessity of perpetuating objectionable Negro stereotypes to obtain publication. In the third place, it would insure publication and distribution of Negro creative works as well as scientific and literary studies. These results, it seems to me, are certainly worthy of the efforts of any organization, especially those interested in education.

A third and final proposal in the educational and aesthetic fields is the creation of a Summer Creative Center. The various New England resorts where scholars, students, artists, writers, and theatrical folk meet for a brief season are familiar to most cultured people. It follows, of course, that there must be something in these centers that are not found in college and local clubs.

During the school season most of our teachers, and all of those interested in creative activities in the professional fields are too harassed by administrations, students, and patients to give much thought to creative and research activity. Moreover many restrictions, despite the first article of the constitution, are put on workers and teachers in certain localities. A great need could, therefore, be filled by the establishment of a Summer Creative Project which would feature a summer theatre, seminars in writing, painting, music, and the other arts, scientific research, lectures, and recreational activities. Such a center would not only be a stimulating place where scholars, students, and creative artists could work, but a holiday resort as well. Most people who go on vacations welcome the opportunity of relaxing and resting at a place where they can attend a few serious programs. In addition to being worthwhile, a plan such as indicated, would not duplicate the work of our summer schools nor educational associations. In fact, the best season for such a project is after all summer schools close, and the teachers are vacation bound.

These three projects falling in the educational and aesthetic field, are suf-

ficient to carry us over into a brief consideration of business — another field stressed by the associations of Greeks. It is at once obvious that any organized group encouraging Negroes to establish and support a business is performing a laudable service. It seems reasonable, however, to expect The Negro Business League, The National Negro Insurance Association and similar organizations to take the primary responsibility. What is needed in addition to their efforts is not so much talk, but the actuality of doing something about Negro business. That would certainly be more convincing. But what significant contribution can the Greek letter groups make towards Negro business

Co-operatives

Well, there is this whole question of cooperatives. Of course it has been talked about and some organizations have dabbled in them—in fact that has been largely the trouble, this talking and dabbling. But as yet no great organizations among Negroes have attempted to demonstrate the practicality of such a business procedure since George S. Schuyler's defunct "Young Negroes Cooperative League," which, incidently, failed only after a heroic attempt by the founder. If any group could carry on a successful cooperative, it ought to be the fraternities and sororities with their highly intellectual membership.

A Cooperative Jewelry Manufacturing Company which would manufacture all jewelry and pins used by the Pan-Hellenic ought to appeal to the group as a worthy enterprise. Such a company need not stop there, however, it could supply our schools, colleges and fraternal orders with their trophies, plaques, and insignia. A cooperative printing establishment which would publish all of the journals and the other publicity media of the organizations might be considered. Either one of these would supply many necessary needs of the organizations, give employment to a few people at least, and what would be infinitely better: set an example of cooperation that would serve as a model for the various other Negro organizations and fraternal associations.

The proposals could continue indefinitely; but no attempt will be made to give an exhaustive list. Study and investigation will undoubtedly reveal countless worthy projects, especially in the field of health—an area in which the writer is not too familiar. The ones indicated are merely suggestive of what could and should be done. In any case, however, the measurement gage should be kept in mind that in order to be creative, projects should fill a real need in Negro life and not duplicate the work of organizations already founded.

The chief obstacle to such a program in the early days was the extremely individualistic conception of each Greek letter organization; but mergers, collective bargaining, unifications, and other tendencies towards large scale cooperation, have naturally affected the more thoughtful members of each group. So there is now the growing conviction that, in addition to the separate activities sponsored by individual members, it is a propitious time for the various fraternities and sororities to pool their forces and carry to success one unique and mighty effort.

The happy side of the picture is a comity which has already been established. We have already the necessary organization to perform such a task. The National Pan-Hellenic Council, Incorporated, was founded in 1930 for that purpose. Though it has been in existence nine years, what it has done beyond publishing a constitution, framing honeyed flummery, and issuing minutes of the last meeting, the general membership does not know. Certainly it has done very little if anything seriously or practically about juvenile delinquency, or the unification of thought and action among Greek letter fraternities and sororities, or the creation of a re-dedicated youth which it mentions in such glowing terms.

Of course, this sad state of affairs is quite understandable, if reports of its aims and activities have been made to the other Greek letter societies with the same lackadaisical and half-hearted manner in which they have been reported to the conclaves of my own fraternity. Slipped in between serious questions before the house, have been vague reports about the Pan-Hellenic Council having met somewhere and passed some resolutions. Never has there been a real conviction about the worth of the Council. Never has there been an emphasis on the fact that the fraternity and sorority program of the future should be a *creative* one under the sponsorship of the National Pan-Hellenic.

It is quite evident, then, that there is a clear need for this organization to wake up and realize that the Greeks are at the crossroads; and that if fraternities and sororities are ever to be freed from the thraldom of individualism which now encapsulates them, and play a major and collective role in Negro life, it is up to this super division to work out a vigorous national program so significant in nature and vast in scope that each fraternity and sorority would take pride in making it a success. Only in that way will the Greeks find another "word for it." Only in that way will they find creative success.

Book Reviews

TO MAKE A POET BLACK. By J. Saunders Redding. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1939. $1.50. X+142p.

Studies of the Negro in American literature whether by Negroes or whites usually begin from a false premise: that articulateness in a slave is phenomenal and that there must be something peculiarly racial about Negro expression despite the examples of Dumas, Pushkin, Dias, Barreto, and many others. The first part of this premise springs naturally from the assumption that Negro slaves were non-cultured savages, while the second part is an outgrowth of the still persistent slave-period assumption that Negroes are not exactly human but the reservoirs of exotic emotions unknown to the rest of mankind. Yet literature is cultural and national and exhibits no racial traits that any historian or critic has been able to state in a logical analysis. I mention this premise because it seems that Mr. Redding unconsciously adopts both segments of it in his study. His comment (p. 67) on "white American novels by Negroes" is merely one proof of this acceptance. And though Mr. Redding attempts to be objective in his appraisals, his apologizing tone and extenuatory manner weaken his prenotion of impartiality. The mere fact that a Negro can write seems to him astonishing.

In his preface Mr. Redding writes that his aim is to give a "sort of history of Negro thought in America" through the correlation of "certain factual material" with a critical study of the "important trends and developments either of thought or forms of expression." Before one can carry out such a program, he must most assuredly be profoundly aware of the main currents of Negro thought in America. Yet not a line in this book reveals any such cognizance on the author's part. He does by chance stumble upon a few bellwether-writers yet his comments on them show no real comprehension of their meaning either as writers or leaders of Negro thought. Nor does the author make any distinction between Negro prose and poetry. As any historian must he begins his study with the writings of Hammon and Phyllis Wheatley yet seems unaware of the fact that the significance of these writers is rooted in the mere fortuitious circumstances of color and status. And when he takes up his "Let Freedom Ring" group he attributes to most of them a significance which they do not possess. He overrates Remond, often misjudges Wells Brown, and finds in Ellen Watkins a "redirection" which is simply not there. Readers will also be surprised to learn that "in his prose . . . Dunbar more nearly expressed the Negro," when actually Dunbar's prose was merely talky-talky perpetuation of the old Negro stereotypes. Maybe Miss Fauset did avoid the "heavier going of propaganda," yet she added an equally as heavy dose of her own brand—that of race chauvinism. "No one of the new Negroes can be accused of making money, or even wanting to make money." I knew most of these new Negroes personally and most of those I knew were desperately eager to line their purses. It is true that they didn't make any money but it was only because their talents stood between them and Mammon.

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Book Reviews

(*Continued from Page 316*)

Mr. Redding is a professor of English, yet his style is wooden, banal, and frequently obscure. A reader encounters such banalities as "shark up labor," "trying to say something and get somewhere," "items become more studious," and "uncommon artist." Furthermore the author is frequently careless with his facts. George Washington Lee's *Beale Street* is actually an historical sketch and is not to be bracketed with the "long list of low-life Stories" like *Home to Harlem*. Helga Crane of *Quicksand* is Negro and Danish not Negro and Swedish. She visited a theater in Copenhagen, not Stockholm. Perigua of Dr. DuBois's *Dark Princess* is a West Indian anarchist, not an "Indian." Dozens of other misinterpretations and misreadings of meaning could be given; but these are enough to show that the author has not carefully studied his material.

Designed as a history of Negro thought, Mr. Redding's book falls far short of its aim. Inevitably the reader will compare it with Mr. Sterling Brown's and Dr. Vernon Loggin's studies only to realize that Mr. Redding has written a very superficial and confusing history of Negro literary thought in America.

JAMES W. IVY.

STEALING A NATION by Kathryn M. Johnson. Pyramid Pub. Co., 4509 Prairie Avenue, Chicago, Ill. Price 50 cents.

This is an eloquent and tragic account of the methods by which Swaziland, a beautiful park-like independent African state at the northeast corner of the Union of South Africa and a trifle smaller in size than New Jersey, was reduced from political self-rule and economic self-sufficiency to a condition of quasi-slavery under the "benevolent" rule of the British oligarchy. White "penetration" began around 1882 and was soon in full swing.

King Umbandine, an indulgent and genial old drunkard, was prevailed upon by a rascally English adventurer armed with several cases of whiskey to sign over for 50 years 1,500,000 acres of the best land in the little country at an annual rental of $250. The King and his councilors knew neither English nor Dutch, so were unable to read the terms of the lease. They placed their marks on the dotted line, however, never dreaming that they were giving away much of their country. The conspirators then forged the signature of an English resident adviser who had been fired from his job five months before, and the great steal of 1889 was complete.

The Boers established a "protectorate" over the beautiful country shortly afterward, only to lose it when they had to surrender to British imperialism. The English validated the steals. Subsequent Swazi monarchs, more wise and sober, went to court to oust the white thieves but soon found they were wasting their time looking for justice from the judicial stooges of the British oligarchy.

All African lands traditionally belonged to the people not the rulers. King Umbandine could not sell or lease what he did not own. The British legal lights know this, of course, but they will not interfere with the companies exploiting Swaziland's natural resources. So the Swazis have lost their freedom and lands and the whites have lost only what they did not have: their honor.

GEORGE S. SCHUYLER

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—Ordinary Insurance: $80,106,234
—Industrial Insurance: $181,961,766.63.
—Health and Accident Insurance: $26,895,069.37
—Employment: 8,150 Negroes
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